

# **EXHIBIT 7**

## **Part 2**

Filed

# The Merriam- Webster Dictionary



Merriam-Webster, Incorporated  
Springfield, Massachusetts



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## PREFACE

This new edition of *The Merriam-Webster Dictionary* is the seventh in a line of Merriam-Webster paperback dictionaries which began in 1947. It is based on and preserves the best aspects of preceding editions, but it now includes the most important recent vocabulary that was added to *Merriam-Webster's Collegiate Dictionary, Eleventh Edition* over the past decade. Throughout the dictionary, over 8,000 usage examples, including 1,000 that are newly added for this edition, illustrate meanings and help to clarify definitions. All the new material has been based on examples of actual use found in the Merriam-Webster citation files and in edited texts online.

The nearly 65,000 entries and more than 75,000 definitions in this dictionary give coverage to the most frequently used words in the language. The heart of the dictionary is the A-Z vocabulary section, where readers will find information about meaning, spelling, pronunciation, etymology, and synonyms. This section is followed by others that users have long found useful: the section Foreign Words and Phrases covers words and phrases from other languages that often occur in English texts but have not become part of the English vocabulary; the section Biographical Names identifies individuals from history and contemporary culture, as well as biblical, legendary, and mythological characters; the section Geographical Names identifies places of importance in the United States and the world, along with current population figures.

*The Merriam-Webster Dictionary* has been created by a company that has been publishing dictionaries for more than 150 years and continues to maintain an in-house staff of experienced lexicographers. For this edition, the primary editing of the main A-Z vocabulary section and the Foreign Words and Phrases was done by Senior Editor James G. Lowe. Daniel J. Hopkins edited the Geographical Names, and Michael G. Belanger edited the Biographical Names. Specialist editors included Adrienne M. Scholz for cross-reference, Joshua S. Guenter for pronunciation, James L. Rader for etymology, and Joan I. Narmontas for life science. Data entry and data-file processing were handled by Daniel B. Brandon. Susan L. Brady acted as production editor, guiding the book through its typesetting stages, assisted by Emily A. Vezina. Proofreaders included Tasha Martino Bigelow, Serenity H. Carr, Ilya A. Davidovich, Allison M. DeJordy, Joanne M. Despres, Benjamin T. Korzec, Maria A.



- or limit <the ~ of a hill> — **crest-ed** <sup>1</sup>'kres-təd *adj* — **crest-less** *adj*
- crest** <sup>2</sup>*vb* 1: CROWN 2: to reach the crest of 3: to rise to a crest
- crest-fall-en** <sup>1</sup>'krest-ˈfɒ-lən *adj*: DISPIRITED, DEJECTED
- Cre-ta-ceous** \kri-ˈtā-shəs *adj*: of, relating to, or being the latest period of the Mesozoic era marked by great increase in flowering plants, diversification of mammals, and extinction of the dinosaurs — **Cretaceous** *n*
- cre-tin** <sup>1</sup>'krē-tɪn *n* [F *crétin*, fr. F dial. *cre-tin*, lit., wretch, innocent victim, fr. L *christianus* Christian] 1: one affected with cretinism 2: a stupid person
- cre-tin-ism** \-jɪ-zəm *n*: a usu. congenital abnormal condition characterized by physical stunting and mental retardation
- cre-tille** <sup>1</sup>'krē-tɪl *n*: a strong unglazed cotton cloth for curtains and upholstery
- cre-vasse** \kri-ˈvas *n*: a deep fissure esp. in a glacier
- crev-ice** \kre-ˈvəs *n*: a narrow fissure
- crew** <sup>1</sup>'krū *chiefly Brit past of CROW*
- crew** *n* [ME *crue*, fr. MF, a reinforcement, lit., increase, fr. *croistre* to grow, fr. L *crecere*] 1: a body of people trained to work together for certain purposes 2: a group of people who operate a ship, train, aircraft, or spacecraft 3: the rowers and coxswain of a racing shell; also: the sport of rowing engaged in by a crew — **crew-man** \-mən *n*
- crew cut** *n*: a very short bristly haircut
- crew-el** <sup>1</sup>'krū-əl *n*: slackly twisted worsted yarn used for embroidery — **crew-el-work** \-wɜrk *n*
- crib** <sup>1</sup>'krib *n* 1: a manger for feeding animals 2: a child's bedstead with high sides 3: a building or bin for storage (as of grain) 4: something used for cheating in an exam
- crib** *vb* **cribbed**; **crib-bing** 1: to put in a crib 2: STEAL, PLAGIARIZE — **crib-ber** *n*
- crib-bage** \kri-bij *n*: a card game usu. played by two players and scored on a board (**cribbage board**)
- crib death** *n*: SUDDEN INFANT DEATH SYNDROME
- crick** \krik *n*: a painful spasm of muscles (as of the neck)
- crick-et** <sup>1</sup>'kri-kət *n* [ME *cricket*, fr. AF, of imit. origin]: any of a family of leaping insects related to the grasshoppers and noted for the chirping noises of the male
- cricket** *n* [MF *criquet* goal stake in a bowling game]: a game played with a bat and ball by two teams on a field centering upon two wickets each defended by a batsman
- crier** \kri-(ə)r *n*: one who calls out proclamations and announcements
- crime** \krīm *n*: a serious offense against the public law
- crim-i-nal** \kri-mə-nəl *adj* 1: involving or being a crime 2: relating to crime or its punishment — **crim-i-nal-ity** \kri-mə-ˈnāl-ə-tē *n* — **crim-i-nal-ly** *adv*
- crim-i-nal-o-gy** \kri-mə-ˈnāl-ə-jē *n*: the scientific study of crime and criminals — **crim-i-nal-o-gist** \kri-mə-ˈnāl-ə-jist *n*
- crimp** \krimp *vb*: to cause to become crinkled, wavy, or bent
- crimp** *n*: something (as a curl in hair) produced by or as if by crimping
- crim-son** \krim-zən *n*: a deep purplish red color — **crimson** *adj*
- cringe** \krinj *vb* **cringed**; **cring-ing**: to shrink in fear: WINCE, COWER
- crin-kle** \kriŋ-kəl *vb* **crin-kled**; **crin-kling**: to form many short bends or curves; also: WRINKLE — **crinkle** *n* — **crin-kly** \-kəl-ē *adj*
- crin-o-line** \kri-nə-lən *n* 1: an open-weave cloth used for stiffening and lining 2: a full stiff skirt or underskirt made of crinoline
- crip-ple** \kri-pəl *n*: one that is disabled or deficient in a specified manner <a social ~>
- cripple** *vb* **crip-pled**; **crip-pling** 1: to make lame 2: to make useless or imperfect — **crip-pler** \kri-p(ə)-lər *n*
- cri-sis** \kri-səs *n*, *pl* **crises** \-sēz [ME, fr. L, fr. Gk *krisis*, lit., decision, fr. *krinein* to decide] 1: the turning point for better or worse in an acute disease or fever 2: a decisive or critical moment
- crisp** \krisp *adj* 1: CURLY, WAVY 2: BRITTLE <a ~ potato chip> 3: FIRM, FRESH <~ lettuce> 4: being sharp and clear <a ~ photo> 5: LIVELY, SPARKLING 6: FROSTY, SNAPPY; also: INVIGORATING — **crisp** *vb* — **crisp-ly** *adv*
- crisp-ness** *n* — **crispy** *adj*
- criss-cross** \kris-krɒs *vb* 1: to mark with crossed lines 2: to go or pass back and forth
- crisscross** *adj*: marked or characterized by crisscrossing — **crisscross** *adv*
- crisscross** *n*: a pattern formed by crossed lines
- crit** *abbr* critical; criticism
- cri-te-ri-on** \kri-ˈtir-ē-ən *n*, *pl* **-ria** \-ē-ə *n*: a standard on which a judgment may be based
- crit-ic** \kri-tik *n* 1: a person who judges literary or artistic works 2: one inclined to find fault
- crit-i-cal** \kri-ti-kəl *adj* 1: being or relating to a condition or disease involving danger of death <~ care> 2: being in a crisis 3: inclined to criticize 4: relating to criticism or critics 5: requiring careful judgment <~ thinking> — **crit-i-cal-ly** \-k(ə)-lē *adv*
- crit-i-cise** *Brit var of CRITICIZE*
- crit-i-cism** \kri-tə-ˈsi-zəm *n* 1: the act of criticizing; esp: CENSURE 2: a judgment or review 3: the art of judging works of literature or art
- crit-i-cize** \kri-tə-ˈsi-z *vb* **-cized**; **-ciz-ing** 1: to judge as a critic: EVALUATE 2: to find fault: express criticism • **Syn-** *criticize, blame, censure, condemn*

- cri-tique** \kra-ˈtēk *n*: a critical estimate or discussion
- crit-ter** \kri-tər *n*: CREATURE
- croak** \krɒk *n*: a hoarse harsh cry (as of a frog) — **croak** *vb*
- croak-er** \krɒk-ər *n* 1: an animal that croaks 2: a fish that produces croaking or grunting noises
- Croat** \krɒ-ˈat *n*: CROATIAN
- Cro-a-tian** \krɒ-ˈā-shən *n* 1: a native or inhabitant of Croatia 2: a Slavic language spoken by Croats — **Croatian** *adj*
- cro-chet** \krɒ-ˈshā *n*: needlework done with a single thread and hooked needle — **crochet** *vb*
- crock** \kræk *n*: a thick earthenware pot or jar
- crock-ery** \krə-kə-rē *n*: EARTHENWARE
- croc-o-dile** \krə-kə-dī(-ə)l *n* [ME & L; ME *cocodrille*, fr. AF, fr. ML *cocodrillus*, alter. of L *crocodylus*, fr. Gk *krokodilos* lizard, crocodile, fr. *krokē* shingle, pebble + *drillos* worm]: any of several thick-skinned long-bodied carnivorous reptiles of tropical and subtropical waters
- cro-cus** \krɒ-kəs *n*, *pl* **cro-cus-es** also **crocus** or **cro-ci** \-ki: any of a large genus of low herbs related to the irises and having brightly colored flowers borne singly in early spring
- Crohn's disease** \krɒnz *n*: a chronic inflammatory disease of the gastrointestinal tract and esp. the ileum
- crois-sant** \krɒ-ˈsant, krwä-ˈsän *n*, *pl* **croissants** \same or -ˈsants, -ˈsänz *n*: a rich crescent-shaped roll
- Cro-Mag-non** \krɒ-ˈmag-nən, -ˈman-yən *n*: a hominid of a tall erect race known from skeletal remains found in southern France and usu. classified as the same species as present-day humans — **Cro-Magnon** *adj*
- crone** \krɒn *n*: HAG
- cro-ny** \krɒ-nē *n*, *pl* **cronies**: a close friend esp. of long standing
- crook** \krūk *vb*: to curve or bend sharply
- crook** *n* 1: a bent or curved implement 2: a bent or curved part; also: BEND, CURVE 3: SWINDLER, THIEF
- crook-ed** \krū-kəd *adj* 1: having a crook: BENT, CURVED 2: DISHONEST — **crook-ed-ly** *adv* — **crook-ed-ness** *n*
- croon** \krūn *vb*: to sing or hum in a gentle murmuring voice — **croon-er** *n*
- crop** \kräp *n* 1: the handle of a whip; also: a short riding whip 2: a pouch in the throat of many birds and insects where food is received 3: something (as a plant product) that can be harvested; also: the yield at harvest
- crop** *vb* **cropped**; **crop-ping** 1: to remove the tips of: cut off short; also: TRIM 2: to feed on by cropping 3: to devote (land) to crops 4: to appear unexpectedly <new problems have cropped up>
- crop duster** *n*: a person who uses an airplane to spray crops with insecticidal dusts; also: an airplane so used
- crop-land** \-ˈland *n*: land devoted to the production of plant crops
- crop-per** \krä-pər *n*: a raiser of crops; esp: SHARECROPPER
- cro-quet** \krɒ-ˈkæ *n*: a game in which mallets are used to drive wooden balls through a series of wickets set out on a lawn
- cro-quette** \krɒ-ˈket *n* [F]: a small often rounded mass of minced meat, fish, or vegetables fried in deep fat
- cro-sier** or **cro-zier** \krɒ-zhər *n*: a staff carried by bishops and abbots
- cross** \krɒs *n* 1: a structure consisting of an upright beam and a crossbar used esp. by the ancient Romans for execution 2: a figure of the cross on which Christ was crucified used as a Christian symbol 3: a hybridizing of unlike individuals or strains; also: a product of this 4: a punch delivered with a circular motion over an opponent's lead
- cross** *vb* 1: to lie or place across; also: INTERSECT 2: to cancel by marking a cross on or by lining through 3: THWART, OBSTRUCT 4: to go or extend across: TRAVERSE 5: HYBRIDIZE 6: to meet and pass on the way <our letters ~ed in the mail>
- cross** *adj* 1: lying across 2: CONTRARY, OPPOSED 3: marked by bad temper 4: HYBRID — **cross-ly** *adv*
- cross-bar** \krɒs-ˈbär *n*: a transverse bar or piece
- cross-bow** \-ˈbō *n*: a short bow mounted crosswise at the end of a wooden stock that shoots short arrows
- cross-breed** \krɒs-brēd, -ˈbrēd *vb* **-bred** \-ˈbrəd; **-breed-ing**: HYBRIDIZE
- cross-coun-try** \krɒs-trē *adj* 1: extending or moving across a country 2: proceeding over the countryside (as fields and woods) and not by roads 3: of or relating to racing or skiing over the countryside instead of over a track or run — **cross-country** *adv*
- cross-cur-rent** \krɒs-ˈənt *n* 1: a current running counter to another 2: a conflicting tendency — usu. used in pl.
- cross-cut** \-ˈkət *vb*: to cut or saw crosswise esp. of the grain of wood
- crosscut** *adj* 1: made or used for cross-cutting <a ~ saw> 2: cut across the grain
- crosscut** *n*: something that cuts through transversely
- cross-ex-am-ine** \krɒ-sig-ˈza-mən *vb*: to examine with questions to check the answers to previous questions — **cross-ex-am-i-na-tion** \-ˈza-mə-ˈnā-shən *n* — **cross-ex-am-in-er** *n*
- cross-eyed** \krɒ-ˈsɪd *adj*: having one or both eyes turned inward toward the nose
- cross-fer-ti-li-za-tion** \-ˈfər-tə-lə-ˈzā-shən *n* 1: fertilization between sex cells produced by separate individuals or sometimes by individuals of different kinds; also: CROSS-POLLINATION 2: a broadening or productive interchange (as between cultures) — **cross-fer-ti-lize** \-ˈfər-tə-līz *vb*

**pre-set** \prē-ˈset\ *vb* -set; -set-ting : to set beforehand — **preset** *n*  
**pre-shrink** \prē-ˈshrɪŋk\ *vb* -shrank \-shrɪŋk\; -shrunk \-shrɪŋk\ : to shrink (as a fabric) before making into a garment  
**pre-side** \pri-ˈzɪd\ *vb* **pre-sid-ed**; **pre-sid-ing** [L *praesidere* to guard, preside over, fr. *prae* in front of + *sedere* to sit] 1 : to exercise guidance or control 2 : to occupy the place of authority; *esp* : to act as chairman  
**pres-i-dent** \pre-zə-dənt\ *n* 1 : one chosen to preside (< of the assembly > 2 : the chief officer of an organization (as a corporation or society) 3 : an elected official serving as both chief of state and chief political executive; *also* : a chief of state often with only minimal political powers — **pres-i-den-cy** \dən-sē\ *n* — **pres-i-den-tial** \pre-zə-ˈden-ʃəl\ *adj*  
**pre-si-dio** \pri-ˈsē-dē-ō, -ˈsi-\ *n, pl* -di-os [Sp] : a military post or fortified settlement in an area currently or orig. under Spanish control  
**pre-sid-i-um** \pri-ˈsi-dē-əm\ *n, pl* -ia \-dē-ə\ or -iums [Russ *prezidium*, fr. L *praesidium* garrison] : a permanent executive committee that acts for a larger body in a Communist country  
**pre-soak** \(\)prē-ˈsōk\ *vb* : to soak beforehand  
**pre-soak** \prē-ˈsōk\ *n* 1 : an instance of presoaking 2 : a preparation used in presoaking clothes  
**pre-sort** \(\)prē-ˈsōrt\ *vb* : to sort (mail) by zip code usu. before delivery to a post office  
**press** \pres\ *n* 1 : a crowded condition : THROGG 2 : a machine for exerting pressure 3 : CLOSET, CUPBOARD 4 : PRESSURE 5 : the properly creased condition of a freshly pressed garment 6 : PRINTING PRESS; *also* : the act or the process of printing 7 : a printing or publishing establishment 8 : the media (as newspapers and magazines) of public news and comment; *also* : persons (as reporters) employed in these media 9 : comment in newspapers and periodicals  
**press** *vb* 1 : to bear down upon : push steadily against 2 : ASSAIL, COMPEL 3 : to squeeze out the juice or contents of (< grapes > 4 : to squeeze to a desired density, shape, or smoothness; *esp* : IRON 5 : to try hard to persuade : URGE 6 : to follow through : PROSECUTE 7 : CROWD < reporters ~ed around the players > 8 : to force one's way 9 : to require haste or speed in action — **press-er** *n*  
**press agent** *n* : an agent employed to establish and maintain good public relations through publicity  
**press-ing** *adj* : URGENT < a ~ need >  
**press-man** \pres-mən, -man\ *n* : the operator of a press and *esp.* a printing press  
**press-room** \-rüm, -rum\ *n* 1 : a room in a printing plant containing the printing presses 2 : a room for the use of reporters  
**pres-sure** \pre-shər\ *n* 1 : the burden of physical or mental distress 2 : the action

of pressing; *esp* : the application of force to something by something else in direct contact with it 3 : the force exerted over a surface divided by its area 4 : the stress or urgency of matters demanding attention

**pressure** *vb* **pres-sured**; **pres-sur-ing** : to apply pressure to

**pressure group** *n* : a group that seeks to influence governmental policy but not to elect candidates to office

**pressure suit** *n* : an inflatable suit for high-altitude flight or spaceflight to protect the body from low pressure

**pres-sur-ize** Brit var of PRESSURIZE

**pres-sur-ize** \pre-shə-ˈrīz\ *vb* -ized; -iz-ing 1 : to maintain higher pressure within than without; *esp* : to maintain normal atmospheric pressure within (as an airplane cabin) during high-altitude flight or spaceflight 2 : to apply pressure to 3 : to design to withstand pressure — **pres-sur-i-za-tion** \pre-shə-ˈrī-zā-shən\ *n*

**pres-ti-dig-i-ta-tion** \pres-tə-ˈdɪ-ja-ˈtā-shən\ *n* : SLEIGHT OF HAND

**pres-tige** \pres-ˈtēzh, -ˈtēj\ *n* [F, fr. MF, conjuror's trick, illusion, fr. LL *praestigi-um*, fr. L *praestigiae*, pl., conjuror's tricks, fr. *praestringere* to graze, blunt, constrict, fr. *prae-* in front of + *stringere* to bind tight] : standing or estimation in the eyes of people : REPUTATION ♦ **Synonyms** INFLUENCE, AUTHORITY, WEIGHT, CACHET — **pres-ti-gious** \-ˈti-jəs, -ˈtē-\ *adj*

**pres-to** \pres-tō\ *interj* [It, quick, quickly] — used to indicate the sudden appearance or occurrence of something

**presto** *adv* or *adj* 1 : suddenly as if by magic : IMMEDIATELY 2 : at a rapid tempo — used as a direction in music

**pre-stress** \(\)prē-ˈstres\ *vb* : to introduce internal stresses into (as a structural beam) to counteract later load stresses

**pre-sum-ably** \pri-ˈzū-mə-blē\ *adv* : by reasonable assumption

**pre-sume** \pri-ˈzūm\ *vb* **pre-sumed**; **pre-sum-ing** 1 : to take upon oneself without leave or warrant : DARE 2 : to take for granted : ASSUME 3 : to act or behave with undue boldness — **pre-sum-able** \-ˈzū-mə-bəl\ *adj*

**pre-sump-tion** \pri-ˈzəmp-shən\ *n* 1 : presumptuous attitude or conduct : AUDACITY 2 : an attitude or belief dictated by probability; *also* : the grounds lending probability to a belief — **pre-sump-tive** \-tɪv\ *adj*

**pre-sump-tu-ous** \pri-ˈzəmp-ʃəs\ *adj* : overstepping due bounds : taking liberties — **pre-sump-tu-ous-ly** *adv*

**pre-sup-pose** \pre-sə-ˈpōz\ *vb* 1 : to suppose beforehand 2 : to require beforehand as a necessary condition — **pre-sup-po-si-tion** \(\)prē-ˈsə-pə-ˈzɪ-shən\ *n*

**pre-teen** \pre-ˈtēn\ *n* : a boy or girl not yet 13 years old — **pre-teen** *adj*

**pre-tend** \pri-ˈtend\ *vb* 1 : PROFESS < doesn't ~ to be scientific > 2 : FEIGN < ~ to be angry > 3 : to lay claim (< to a throne > — **pre-tend-er** *n*)

**pre-tense** or **pre-tence** \prē-ˈtens, pri-ˈtens\ *n* 1 : CLAIM; *esp* : one not supported by fact 2 : mere display : SHOW 3 : an attempt to attain a certain condition < made a ~ at discipline > 4 : false show : PRETEXT < a ~ of objectivity > — **pre-tension** \pri-ˈten-shən\ *n*

**pre-tentious** \pri-ˈten-ʃəs\ *adj* 1 : making or possessing usu. unjustified claims (as to excellence) < a ~ literary style > 2 : making demands on one's ability or means : AMBITIOUS < too ~ an undertaking > — **pre-tentious-ly** *adv* — **pre-tentious-ness** *n*

**pret-er-it** or **pret-er-ite** \pre-tə-ˈrət\ *n* : a verb form expressing action in the past  
**pre-term** \(\)prē-ˈtərm, -ˈtē\ *adj* : of, relating to, being, or brought forth by premature birth < a ~ infant >

**pre-ter-nat-u-r-al** \pre-tər-ˈna-ʃə-rəl\ *adj* 1 : exceeding what is natural < his ~ stamina > 2 : inexplicable by ordinary means — **pre-ter-nat-u-ral-ly** *adv*

**pre-text** \prē-ˈtekst\ *n* : a purpose stated or assumed to cloak the real intention or state of affairs

**pret-ti-fy** \pri-ˈti-fī\ *vb* -fied; -fy-ing : to make pretty — **pret-ti-fi-ca-tion** \pri-ˈti-fə-ˈkā-shən\ *n*

**pret-ty** \pri-ˈtē\ *adj* **pret-ti-er**; -est [ME *praty*, *prety*, fr. OE *prættig* tricky, fr. *prætt* trick] 1 : pleasing by delicacy or grace : having conventionally accepted elements of beauty (< ~ flowers > 2 : MISERABLE, TERRIBLE < a ~ state of affairs > 3 : moderately large < a ~ profit > 4 : PLEASANT — usu. used in negative constructions < the truth was not so ~ > ♦ **Synonyms** COMELY, FAIR, BEAUTIFUL, ATTRACTIVE, LOVELY — **pret-ti-ly** \-tē-lē\ *adv* — **pret-ti-ness** \-tē-nəs\ *n*

**pretty** *adv* : in some degree : MODERATELY; *also* : QUITE, MAINLY

**pretty** *vb* **pret-tied**; **pret-ty-ing** : to make pretty — usu. used with *up*

**pretty boy** *n* : a man who is notably good-looking

**pret-zel** \pret-səl\ *n* [G *Brezel*, ultim. fr. L *brachiatus* having branches like arms, fr. *brachium* arm] : a brittle or chewy glazed usu. salted slender bread often shaped like a loose knot

**prev** *abbr* previous; previously

**pre-vail** \pri-ˈvāl\ *vb* 1 : to win mastery : TRIUMPH 2 : to be or become effective : SUCCEED 3 : to urge successfully (< ~ed upon her to sing > 4 : to be frequent : PREDOMINATE — **pre-vail-ing-ly** *adv*

**prev-a-lent** \pre-və-lənt\ *adj* : generally or widely existent : WIDESPREAD — **prev-a-lence** \-ləns\ *n*

**pre-var-i-cate** \pri-ˈvər-ə-kāt\ *vb* -cat-ed; -cat-ing [L *praevāricari* to act in collusion, lit., to straddle, fr. *prae* in front of + *varicare* to straddle, fr. *varus* bow-legged] : to deviate from the truth : EQUIVOCATE — **pre-var-i-ca-tion** \-vər-ə-ˈkā-shən\ *n* — **pre-var-i-ca-tor** \-vər-ə-ˈkā-tər\ *n*

**pre-vent** \pri-ˈvent\ *vb* 1 : to keep from happening or existing < steps to ~ war >

from going > — **pre-vent-able** *also* **pre-vent-ible** \pre-ˈven-tə-bəl\ *adj* — **pre-ven-tative** \pre-ˈven-tə-tɪv\ *adj* or *n* — **pre-ven-tion** \pre-ˈven-ʃən\ *n* — **pre-ven-tive** \pre-ˈven-tɪv\ *adj* or *n*

**pre-ver-bal** \pre-ˈvər-bəl\ *adj* : having not yet acquired the faculty of speech

**pre-view** \pre-ˈvyū\ *vb* : to see or discuss beforehand; *esp* : to view or show in advance of public presentation

**pre-view** *n* 1 : FORETASTE 2 : an advance showing or viewing 3 *also* **pre-vue** \-vyū\ : a showing of snapshots from a motion picture advertised for future appearance

**pre-vi-ous** \pre-ˈvə-əs\ *adj* : going before : EARLIER, FORMER ♦ **Synonyms** FOREGOING, PRIOR, PRECEDING, ANTECEDENT — **pre-vi-ous-ly** *adv*

**pre-vi-sion** \pre-ˈvi-zhən\ *n* 1 : FORESIGHT, PRESCIENCE 2 : FORECAST, PREDICTION < a ~ of success >

**pre-war** \pre-ˈwɔr\ *adj* : occurring or existing before a war

**prey** \pre\ *n, pl* **preys** 1 : an animal taken for food by a predator; *also* : VICTIM 2 : the act or habit of preying

**prey** *vb* 1 : to raid for booty 2 : to seize and devour prey 3 : to have a harmful or wearing effect

**prf** *abbr* proof

**price** \pris\ *n* 1 *archaic* : VALUE 2 : the amount of money paid or asked for the sale of a specified thing; *also* : the cost at which something is obtained

**price** *vb* **priced**; **pric-ing** 1 : to set a price on 2 : to ask the price of 3 : to drive by raising prices < priced themselves out of the market >

**price-fix-ing** \pris-ˈfɪk-sɪŋ\ *n* : the setting of prices artificially (as by producers or government)

**price-less** \-ləs\ *adj* : having a value beyond any price : INVALUABLE ♦ **Synonyms** PRECIOUS, COSTLY, EXPENSIVE

**price support** *n* : artificial maintenance of prices of a commodity at a level usu. fixed through government action

**price war** *n* : a period of commercial competition in which prices are repeatedly cut by the competitors

**pric-ey** *also* **pricy** \pri-ˈsē\ *adj* **pric-i-er**; -est : EXPENSIVE < a ~ restaurant >

**prick** \prɪk\ *n* 1 : a mark or small wound made by a pointed instrument 2 : something sharp or pointed 3 : an instance of pricking; *also* : a sensation of being pricked

**prick** *vb* 1 : to pierce slightly with a sharp point; *also* : to have or cause a pricking sensation 2 : to affect with anguish or remorse (< ~ his conscience > 3 : to outline with punctures (< ~ out a pattern > 4 : to stand or cause to stand erect < the dog's ears ~ed up at the sound > ♦ **Synonyms** PUNCHED, PUNCTURE, PERFORATE, BORE, DRILL

**prick-er** \prɪ-ˈkər\ *n* : BRIAR; *also* : THORN

**prick-le** \prɪ-ˈkl\ *n* 1 : a small sharp process (as on a plant) 2 : a slight stinging pain — **prick-ly** \prɪ-ˈklē\ *adj*

# Merriam- Webster's Collegiate<sup>®</sup> Dictionary

ELEVENTH  
EDITION



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<sup>1</sup>**pret-ty** \ˈpri-tē, *per-also* ˈprē-ˌvadi **pret-ti-er** **-est** [ME *praty*, *pretty*, fr

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Amended 7/2/19 Page 9 of 27

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THE  
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DICTIONARY

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Third Edition

*Consultant Editor*  
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swallowed a bead — Dickens. **3** archaic to confine or restrain (a person, etc): *But now I am cabined, cribbed, confined, bound in* — Shakespeare. **>** **verb intrans** **1** to copy from a crib or from a classmate, etc. **2** *Brit*, dated to grumble: *She's out half the time and doesn't answer the telephone, and when I start cribbing she just laughs* — L P Hartley. **>** **cribber** *noun*.

**cribbage** /'kribij/ *noun* a card game for two to four players who each try to form various counting combinations of cards. [prob from CRIB<sup>1</sup>]

**crib-biting** *noun* a habit that some horses have of gnawing at the woodwork in their stable, slobbering, salivating, and sucking in air.

**crib death** *noun* *NAmE* = COT DEATH.

**cribriform** /'kribrifawm/ *adj* denoting an anatomical structure that is pierced with small holes, e.g. for the passage of nerves: *a cribriform plate*. [Latin *cribrum* sieve + -FORM]

**cribwork** *noun* the timber framework used in constructing foundations, etc; = CRIB<sup>1</sup> (IT).

**crick**<sup>1</sup> /'krik/ *noun* a painful spasmodic condition of the muscles of the neck, back, etc. [Middle English *crȳk*; earlier history unknown]

**crick**<sup>2</sup> *verb trans* to cause a crick in (the neck, etc).

**cricket**<sup>1</sup> /'krikit/ *noun* a game played with a bat and ball on a large field with two wickets near its centre by two sides of eleven players each who try to score runs by hitting the ball and running between the wickets. **\*** **not cricket** *Brit*, informal against the dictates of fair play; not honourable. **>** **cricketer** *noun*. [French *criquet* stake used as goal in a bowling game]

**cricket**<sup>2</sup> *noun* any of numerous species of leaping insects noted for the chirping sounds produced by the male: family Gryllidae. [Middle English *criket* from early French *criquet*, of imitative origin]

**cricoid** /'krikoɪd/ *adj* denoting the ring-shaped cartilage of the larynx. [via scientific Latin from Greek *krikoeidēs* ring-shaped, from *krikos* ring + -OID]

**cri de coeur** /kree də 'kuh/ *noun* (pl **cris de coeur** /kree/) a passionate plea or protest. [French *cri de coeur* cry from the heart]

**cried** /'kried/ *verb* past tense and past part. of CRY<sup>1</sup>.

**crier** /'krie-ə/ *noun* an officer who makes announcements in a court.

**crikey** /'krieki/ *interj* chiefly *Brit*, dated used to express surprise. [euphemism for CHRIST<sup>2</sup>]

**crime** /'kriem/ *noun* **1** violation of law, or an instance of this, punishable by the state: *Petty laws breed great crimes* — Ouida. **2** a grave offence, esp against morality. **3** criminal activity: *victims of crime*. **4** informal something deplorable, foolish, or disgraceful: *It's a crime to waste good food*. [Middle English from Latin *crimen* accusation, fault, crime]

**crime passionnel** /kreem pasyo'nel/ *noun* (pl **crimes passionnels** /kreem pasyo'nel/) a crime, usu murder, prompted by sexual jealousy. [French *crime passionnel* crime of passion]

**crime writer** *noun* a writer of detective fiction or thrillers.

**crimin-** or **crimino-** *comb. form* forming words, denoting: crime or criminals. [Latin *crimīn-*, *crimen* accusation, offence]

**criminal**<sup>1</sup> /'kriminl/ *adj* **1** involving or constituting a crime: *criminal negligence*. **2** relating to crime or its punishment: *criminal law*. **3** guilty of crime: *the criminal classes; the criminal mind*. **4** informal disgraceful; deplorable: *a criminal waste of money*. **>** **criminality** /-naliti/ *noun*, **criminally** *adv*. [Middle English via French from late Latin *criminalis*, from Latin *crimīn-*, *crimen* CRIME]

**criminal**<sup>2</sup> *noun* a person who has committed or been convicted of a crime.

**criminal conversation** *noun* a former legal term for adultery, esp as constituting grounds for the husband's recovery of damages from the wife's adulterous partner.

**criminalize** or **criminalise** *verb trans* **1** to make (an activity) illegal. **2** to outlaw the activities of (a person) and so turn them into a criminal.

**criminal law** *noun* the law relating to crimes and their punishments.

**crimino-** *comb. form* see CRIMIN-.

**criminogenic** /'kriminoh'jenik/ *adj* likely to lead to criminal behaviour: *the question of whether television violence is or is not criminogenic; Corporate crime can be linked to criminogenic factors associated with upward mobility*.

**criminology** /'krimi'noləʒi/ *noun* the study of crime, criminals, and penal treatment. **>** **criminological** /-ləʒikl/ *adj*, **criminologist** *noun*.

**crimp**<sup>1</sup> /'krimp/ *verb trans* **1** to make (the hair) wavy or curly. **2** to roll or curl the edge of (a steel panel, etc). **3** to pinch or press (material) together in order to seal or join it. **4** *NAmE*, informal to hinder or hamper (a person or operation): *research crimped by a lack of funding*. **>** **crimper** *noun*. [Dutch or Low German *krimpen* to shrivel]

**crimp**<sup>2</sup> *noun* **1** a rolled, folded, or compressed edge. **2** a tight curl or wave in the hair.

**Crimplene** /'krimpleen/ *noun* trademark a textured continuous-filament polyester yarn. [prob from CRIMP<sup>2</sup> + -lene as in TERYLENE]

**crimson**<sup>1</sup> /'krimz(ə)n/ *adj* of a deep purplish red colour. **>** **crimson** *noun*. [Middle English *crimisin* via Old Spanish *cremesin* from Arabic *qirmizi*, from *qirmiz* KERMES]

**crimson**<sup>2</sup> *verb* (**crimsoned**, **crimsoning**) **>** *verb intrans* literary **1** to become crimson: *The sky crimsoned towards the west*. **2** to blush: *She crimsoned when he kissed her*. **>** *verb trans* to make (something) crimson.

**cringe**<sup>1</sup> /'kriŋj/ *verb intrans* **1** to shrink or cower in fear. **2** to adopt a cowering posture expressive of humility. **3** (often + to) to behave with fawning self-abasement: *It is not my nature, sir, to cringe to any man* — Conan Doyle; *The elder advanced with a cringing smile* — Somerset Maugham. **4** to feel acute embarrassment. [Middle English *crengen*, of Germanic origin]

**cringe**<sup>2</sup> *noun* the act or an instance of cringing.

**cringeworthy** *adj* informal embarrassingly awful: *cringeworthy lyrics*.

**cringle** /'kriŋg-gl/ *noun* an eyelet or loop worked into the edge of a sail for attaching a rope. [Low German *kringel*, dimin. of *kring* ring; related to Old English *cradol* CRADLE<sup>1</sup>]

**crinkle**<sup>1</sup> /'kriŋkl/ *verb intrans* **1** to wrinkle. **2** to rustle. **>** *verb trans* to cause (something) to crinkle. [Middle English *crynkelen*, of Germanic origin]

**crinkle**<sup>2</sup> *noun* a wrinkle. **>** **crinkly** *adj*.

**crinoid** /'krienoɪd/ *noun* any of a large class of echinoderms having a cup-shaped body with five or more feathery arms: class Crinoidea. **>** **crinoid** *adj*, **crinoidal** /-noɪd/ *adj*. [Latin class name, from Greek *krinon* lily + -OID]

**crinoline** /'kriŋəlɪn/ *noun* a full skirt as worn by women in the 19th cent., or a padded or hooped petticoat supporting it. [French *crinoline* from Italian *crinolino*, from *crino* horsehair (from Latin *crinis* hair) + *lino* flax, linen, from Latin *linum*]

**criollo** /'kri'oh(ɪ)joh/ *noun* (pl **criollos**) **1** a person born and usu raised in S America; esp one of Spanish descent. **2** a domestic animal of a breed or strain developed in Latin America; esp a breed of strong hardy horses developed in Argentina. **>** **criollo** *adj*. [Spanish *criollo*: see CREOLE]

**cripes** /'krieps/ *interj* informal, dated an expression of surprise or dismay. [euphemism for CHRIST<sup>2</sup>]

**cripple**<sup>1</sup> /'kripl/ *noun* **1** offensive a lame or partly disabled person. **2** a person who is impaired in a non-physical way: *an emotional cripple*. [Old English *crypel*; related to Old English *crēopan* CREEP<sup>1</sup>]

**cripple**<sup>2</sup> *verb trans* **1** to disable (somebody) physically. **2** to impair (a person) mentally, emotionally, etc. **3** to hamper or severely limit (a person, operation, etc).

**crisis** /'kriːsɪs/ *noun* (pl **crises** /'kriːseɪz/) **1** a time of acute difficulty or danger, esp on a national or international scale: *The Cuban missile crisis of 1962*. **2a** the turning point for better or worse in an acute disease, e.g. pneumonia. **b** a sudden attack of pain, distress, etc. [via Latin from Greek *krisis* decision, from *krinein* to decide]

**crisp**<sup>1</sup> /'krisp/ *adj* **1a** easily crumbled; brittle. **b** desirably firm and fresh: *a crisp apple; crisp lettuce leaves*. **c** newly made or prepared: *a crisp pound note*. **d** said of curly hair: strong and wiry. **2** sharp, clean-cut, and clear: *a crisp illustration*. **3** decisive; sharp: *a crisp manner*. **4** said of the weather: briskly cold; fresh; esp frosty. **>** **crisply** *adv*, **crispness** *noun*. [Old English *crisp* curled, from Latin *crispus*]

**crisp**<sup>2</sup> *noun* *Brit* a thin slice of flavoured or salted fried potato, usu eaten cold: *a packet of crisps*.

**crisp**<sup>3</sup> *verb trans* **1** to make or keep (food) crisp: *Crisp the bread in the oven*. **2** archaic to curl or crimp (hair). **>** *verb intrans* to become crisp: *Allow the breadcrumbs time to crisp under the grill*.

**crispate** /'krispeɪt, -pit/ *adj* said e.g. of leaves: having a wavy or undulating edge.

**crispbread** *noun* a plain dry unsweetened biscuit made from crushed grain, e.g. rye.

**crisper** *noun* a compartment at the bottom of a refrigerator for keeping vegetables, esp salad vegetables, fresh.

**Crispin** /'krispin/ *noun* a sweet eating apple of Japanese origin with a greenish yellow skin.

**crispy** *adj* (**crispier**, **crispiest**) **1** firm and fresh. **2** made crisp by deep frying: *crispy noodles*. **>** **crispiness** *noun*.

**crisscross**<sup>1</sup> /'kriskrɒs/ *noun* a crisscrossed pattern. [obsolete *christcross* Christ's cross, from the cross symbol traditionally printed before the alphabet on children's hornbooks]

**crisscross**<sup>2</sup> *adj* marked or characterized by a crisscrossing pattern or network.

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**pretty**<sup>3</sup> *verb trans* (pretties, prettied, prettying) *informal* (usu + up) to make (something or somebody) pretty: *We need some nice curtains to pretty up the room.*

**pretty**<sup>4</sup> *noun* (pl pretties) *archaic* a pretty person or thing, esp a dear or pretty child or young woman.

**pretty-pretty** *adj* pretty in an insipid or inappropriate way.

**pretzel** /'preɪzl/ *noun* a brittle glazed and salted biscuit typically having the form of a loose knot. [German *Pretzel*, perhaps derived ultimately from Latin *brachiatius* having branches like arms, from *brachium*, *bracchium* arm]

**prevail** /'pri:vayl/ *verb intrans* **1** (often + against/over) to gain a victory or the ascendancy through strength or superiority; to triumph. **2** (+ on/upon/with) to persuade somebody successfully: *She finally prevailed on him to sing.* **3** to be frequent; to predominate: *The west winds that prevail in the mountains.* **4** to be or continue in use or fashion; to persist: *a custom that still prevails.* [Middle English *prevailen* from Latin *praevalēre*, from *PRAE-* + *valēre* to be strong]

**prevailing** *adj* **1** most frequently occurring: *prevailing winds.* **2** currently widespread or predominant: *the prevailing fashion.* ➤ **prevailingly** *adv.*

**prevalent** /'pre:vələnt/ *adj* **1** generally or widely occurring or existing; widespread. **2** *archaic* predominant. ➤ **prevalence** *noun*, **prevalently** *adv.* [Latin *praevalens*, *praevalens* very powerful, present part. of *praevalēre*: see *PREVAIL*]

**prevaricate** /'pri:vərikayt/ *verb intrans* to speak or act evasively so as to hide the truth; to equivocate. ➤ **prevarication** /-'kaysh(ə)n/ *noun*, **prevaricator** *noun*. [Latin *praevaricatus*, past part. of *praevaricari* to walk crookedly, from *PRAE-* + *varicare* to straddle]

#### Usage note

**prevaricate** or **procrastinate**? These words are close in meaning and therefore likely to be confused. However, there is a difference: to *prevaricate* is to dither or be evasive whereas to *procrastinate* is to put something off until tomorrow (literally or metaphorically). You will get no decision from a person who prevaricates, but with a little patience you will get one from a person who procrastinates. Of course, some people find ways of doing both.

**prevenient** /'pri:veinyənt, -ni-ənt/ *adj* *formal* antecedent; preceding. ➤ **preveniently** *adv.* [Latin *praeveniens*, *praeveniens*, present part. of *praevenire*: see *PREVENT*]

**prevent** /'pri:vənt/ *verb trans* **1** to stop (something) from happening or existing: *Both sides took steps to prevent war.* **2** (often + from) to hold or keep (somebody or something) back; to stop (somebody or something) from doing something: *There's nothing to prevent you from going alone.* ➤ **preventability** /-'biliti/ *noun*, **preventable** *adj*, **prevention** /-sh(ə)n/ *noun*, **preventer** *noun*, **preventible** *adj*, **prevention** /-sh(ə)n/ *noun*. [Middle English *prevenen* to anticipate, from Latin *praevenire*, past part. of *praevenire* to come before, anticipate, forestall, from *PRAE-* + *venire* to come]

**preventative**<sup>1</sup> /'pri:vəntətiv/ *adj* = *PREVENTIVE*<sup>1</sup>.

**preventative**<sup>2</sup> *noun* = *PREVENTIVE*<sup>2</sup>.

**preventive**<sup>1</sup> /'pri:vəntiv/ *adj* **1** intended or serving to prevent something: *preventive medicine.* **2** undertaken to forestall an anticipated hostile action: *a preventive strike.* ➤ **preventively** *adv*, **preventiveness** *noun*.

**preventive**<sup>2</sup> *noun* something that prevents something, esp a drug or treatment that prevents disease.

**preview**<sup>1</sup> /'pre:vyooh/ *verb trans* **1** to view or show (e.g. a film or exhibition) in advance of public presentation. **2** to describe or report on (events, films, programmes, etc) that are to be presented in the near future.

**preview**<sup>2</sup> *noun* **1** an advance viewing, showing, or performance, e.g. of a film or exhibition. **2** a brief survey of something that is to come, esp a description of coming events or entertainments. **3** chiefly *NAmE* a film or television trailer.

**previous** /'pri:vi-əs/ *adj* **1** going before in time or order: *The previous occupants left the flat in a dreadful state.* **2** *informal* acting too soon; premature: *She was a bit previous when she said she'd got the job.* \* **previous** to before; prior to. ➤ **previously** *adv*, **previousness** *noun*. [Latin *praevious* leading the way, from *PRAE-* + *via* way]

**previse** /'pri:viz/ *verb trans* *archaic* or *literary* to foresee or forecast (something). ➤ **prevision** /'pre:vizh(ə)n/ *noun*. [Latin *praevisus*, past part. of *praevidere* to foresee, from *PRAE-* + *videre* to see]

**prevue** /'pre:vyooh/ *noun* = *PREVIEW*<sup>2</sup> (3).

**prewar** /'pre:waw/ *adj* denoting the period preceding a war, esp World War I or II.

**pre-wash**<sup>1</sup> *noun* a preliminary wash before the main wash, esp in an automatic washing machine.

**pre-wash**<sup>2</sup> *verb trans* to give a pre-wash to (clothes, etc).

**prey**<sup>1</sup> /'pray/ *noun* **1a** an animal taken by a predator as food. **b** somebody or something that is helpless or unable to resist attack; a victim. **2** the act or habit of preying: *a beast of prey.* [Middle English *preie* booty, prey, via Old French from Latin *praeda*]

**prey**<sup>2</sup> *verb intrans* **1a** (often + on/upon) to seize and devour prey: *Kestrels prey on mice.* **b** (often + on/upon) to live by extortion, deceit, or exerting undue influence: *Confidence tricksters prey on elderly women.* **2** (+ on/upon) to have a continuously oppressive or distressing effect: *There are a number of problems preying on my mind.* **3** (usu + on/upon) to make raids for booty: *Pirates preyed on the coast.* ➤ **preyer** /'prey/ *noun*. [Middle English *preyen* via Old French from Latin *praedari*, from *praeda* *PREY*<sup>1</sup>]

**prezzie** or **pressie** /'prezi/ *noun* *informal* a present. [by alteration from *PRESENT*]

**priapic** /'pri:ə'pik, pri:ə'ypik/ *adj* = *PHALLIC*. [Latin *priapus* lecher, from *Priapus*, god of male generative power, from Greek *Priapos*]

**priapism** /'pri:ə'piz(ə)m/ *noun* continuous, abnormal, and often painful erection of the penis.

**price**<sup>1</sup> /'priz/ *noun* **1** the amount, esp of money, that is demanded by a seller of something or paid by a buyer. **2** something sacrificed or lost in order to achieve an objective. **3a** an amount sufficient for a bribe: *Every man has his price.* **b** a reward for the catching or killing of a criminal or outlaw. **4** the odds in betting. **5** *archaic* value; worth: *Who can find a virtuous woman? for her price is far above rubies* — Bible. \* **at any price** whatever the cost, effort, sacrifice, etc required. **at a price** paying a high price or at a heavy cost in terms of loss, sacrifice, etc. **what price ...?** **1** what are the chances of ...? **2** what has become of ...? [Middle English *pris* via Old French from Latin *pretium* price, money]

**price**<sup>2</sup> *verb trans* **1** to set a price for (something). **2** to find out the price of (something). \* **price oneself out of the market** to sell things at a higher price than most buyers are willing to pay. ➤ **pricer** *noun*.

**price-cutting** *noun* the practice of reducing prices, esp to a level designed to undermine competition.

**price-earnings ratio** *noun* a measure of the value of ordinary shares (shares in the equity capital of a business; see *ORDINARY SHARE*) determined as the ratio of their market price to their earnings per share.

**price-fixing** *noun* the practice of fixing the price of a product by agreement between its suppliers.

**price index** *noun* a number used to indicate changes in the level of prices from one period to another. It shows the level of the prices of a group of commodities relative to their level during an arbitrarily chosen base period. ➤ **price indexing** *noun*.

**priceless** *adj* **1** having a value that is too great to be calculated; invaluable. **2** *informal* particularly amusing or absurd: *She told me this priceless story.*

**price ring** *noun* a group of traders acting in agreement to maintain prices.

**price-sensitive** *adj* **1** highly responsive to changes in price: *price-sensitive consumers.* **2** likely to affect the price of something, esp stocks and shares: *price-sensitive information.*

**price tag** *noun* **1** a label on merchandise showing the price at which it is offered for sale. **2** price or cost: *The council was asked to put a price tag on the new nursery school.*

**price war** *noun* a period of commercial competition characterized by the repeated cutting of prices below those of competitors.

**pricey** or **pricy** *adj* (**pricier**, **priciest**) chiefly *Brit*, *informal* expensive.

**prick**<sup>1</sup> /'prɪk/ *verb trans* **1** to pierce (somebody or something) slightly with a sharp point. **2** to puncture (something). **3** to affect (somebody) with sorrow or remorse: *His conscience began to prick him.* **4** (often + out) to mark or outline (something) with punctured holes or dots. **5** (often + up) said of an animal: to raise (its ears) so that they stand erect. **6** (usu + out) to transplant (seedlings) from the place where they germinate to a more permanent position, e.g. in a flower bed. ➤ *verb intrans* **1** to prick something or cause a pricking sensation. **2** to feel discomfort as if from being pricked. \* **prick up one's ears** to start to listen intently. ➤ **pricker** *noun*. [Old English *prica*]

**prick**<sup>2</sup> *noun* **1** the act of pricking something or the sensation of being pricked. **2a** a pointed instrument, weapon, etc. **b** a mark or shallow hole made by a pointed instrument. **3** a nagging or sharp feeling of sorrow or remorse. **4** *coarse slang* the penis. **5** *coarse slang* a disagreeable or contemptible person. \* **kick against the pricks** to harm oneself in a vain attempt to oppose or resist something [● with reference to an ox or horse kicking when goaded or spurred: the metaphorical use is from Acts 9:5, where Saul on the road to Damascus hears the words 'I am Jesus whom thou persecutest: it is hard for thee to kick against the pricks.']. ➤ **pricker** *noun*. [Old English *prica*]

**pricket** /'prikɪt/ *noun* **1** a spike on which a candle is stuck. **2** a buck, esp a male fallow deer, two years old. [Middle English *priket* from *prikke* *PRICK*<sup>2</sup>; (sense 2) prob from the straightness of its horns]

**prickle**<sup>1</sup> leaf or stinging

**prickle**<sup>2</sup> to feel a

**prickly** **2** causing **3a** trouble **dispositive**

**prickly** itching

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**cri-ol-la** (kré ó'la; Sp. kré ó'yá), *n.*, *pl.* **-ol-las** (-ó'léz; Sp. -ó'yás), a woman or girl born in Spanish America but of European, usually Spanish, ancestry. [*< Sp. fem. of CRIOLLO*]

**cri-ol-lo** (kré ó'ló; Sp. kré ó'yó), *n.*, *pl.* **-ol-los** (-ó'lóz; Sp. -ó'yós), *adj.* — *n.* 1. a person born in Spanish America but of European, usually Spanish, ancestry. Cf. **Creole** (def. 1). 2. a domestic animal of any of several strains or breeds developed in Latin America. — *adj.* 3. of, pertaining to, or characteristic of a criollo or criollos. [1905-10; *< Sp.* see **CREOLE**]

**crip** (krip), *n.* **Slang** (offensive). a cripple. [1915-20, Amer.; by shortening]

**cripes** (krips), *interj.* (used as a mild oath or an exclamation of astonishment.) [1905-10; appar. euphemistic alter. of **CHRIST**]

**cripple** (krip'pl), *n.*, *v.* **-pled, -pling, adj.** — *n.* 1. Sometimes **Offensive**. a. a person or animal that is partially or totally unable to use one or more limbs; a lame or disabled person or animal. b. a person who is disabled or impaired in any way: a mental cripple. 2. anything that is impaired or flawed. 3. a wounded animal, esp. one shot by a hunter. 4. **Carpentry**. any structural member shorter than usual, as a stud beneath a window sill. 5. **Delaware Valley**. a swampy, densely overgrown tract of land. — *v.* 6. to make a cripple of; lame. 7. to disable; impair; weaken. — *adj.* 8. **Carpentry**. jack' (def. 29). [bef. 950; ME *cripel*, OE *cripel*; akin to **CREEP**]

**cripp-ler**, *n.* — **crip-pling-ly, adv.** — *Syn.* 7. maim. **CRIPPLE**, **DISABLE** mean to injure to a degree that interferes with normal activities. To **CRIPPLE** is to injure in such a way as to deprive of the use of a member, particularly a leg. **DISABLE**, a more general word, implies any such illness, injury, or impairment: disabled by an attack of malaria; disabled by a wound.

**Crip/ple Creek**, a town in central Colorado: gold rush 1891. 655; 9600 ft. (2925 m) above sea level.

**Cripps** (krips), *n.* **Sir Stafford**, 1889-1952, British statesman and socialist leader.

**crise** (kréz), *n.*, *pl.* **crises** (kréz). **French**. crisis.

**cri-sis** (kri'sis), *n.*, *pl.* **-ses** (-séz), *adj.* — *n.* 1. a stage in a sequence of events at which the trend of all future events, esp. for better or for worse, is determined; turning point. 2. a condition of instability or danger, as in social, economic, political, or international affairs, leading to a decisive change. 3. a dramatic emotional or circumstantial upheaval in a person's life. 4. **Med.** a. the point in the course of a serious disease at which a decisive change occurs, leading either to recovery or to death. b. the change itself. 5. the point in a play or story at which hostile elements are most tensely opposed to each other. — *adj.* 6. of, referring to, or for use in dealing with a crisis. [1375-1425; late ME *< L* *< Gk* *krisis* decision, equiv. to *kri-* var. *s* of *kri-*nein to decide, separate, judge + *-sis* (-sis)] — **cri-sic, adj.** — *Syn.* 1. See **emergency**.

**cri-sis cen-ter**, 1. a central facility, telephone answering service, etc., where people may obtain informed help or advice in a personal crisis. 2. an office, building, agency, etc., serving as a central point for receiving information and coordinating action during a disaster or emergency. [1970-75]

**cri-sis man/agement**, the techniques used, as by an employer or government, to avert or deal with strikes, riots, violence, or other crisis situations. [1960-65] — **cri-sis man/ager, n.**

**cri-sis theol/o-gy**, a neorthodox theology, advocated by Karl Barth and others, emphasizing the absolute necessity of faith and divine revelation in transcending the personal crisis, common to all humankind, that arises from the contradictions inherent in human nature and in the social order. Also called **theology of crisis**. — **cri-sis theol/o-gian, n.**

**crisp** (krisp), *adj.*, *-er, -est, v.*, *n.* — *adj.* 1. (esp. of food) hard but easily breakable; brittle: *crisp toast*. 2. (esp. of food) firm and fresh; not soft or wilted: *a crisp leaf of lettuce*. 3. brisk; sharp; clear; decided: *a crisp reply*. 4. lively; pithy; sparkling: *crisp repartee*. 5. clean-cut, neat, and well-pressed; well-groomed. 6. bracing; invigorating: *crisp air*. 7. crinkled, wrinkled, or rippled, as skin or water. 8. in small, stiff, or firm curls; curly. — *v.* 9. to make or become crisp. 10. to curl. — *n.* 11. Chiefly **Brit.** See **potato chip**. 12. a dessert of fruit, as apples or apricots, baked with a crunchy mixture, usually of bread crumbs, chopped nuts, meats, butter, and brown sugar. [bef. 900; ME, OE *< L* *crispus* curled] — **crisp/ly, adv.** — **crisp/ness, n.** — *Syn.* 6. brisk, fresh, nippy.

**crisp-en** (kris'pən), *v.*, *u.*, *i.* to make or become crisp. [1940-45; *CRISP* + *-EN*]

**crisp-er** (kris'pər), *n.* 1. a person or thing that crisps, corrugates, or curls. 2. a drawer or compartment in a refrigerator for keeping lettuce, celery, and other vegetables crisp. 3. an ovenlike appliance for restoring the crispness of crackers, cookies, etc., by dry heating. [1825-35; *CRISP* + *-ER*]

**Cri-spi** (kré'spē), *n.* **Fran-co-sco** (frän che'skō), 1819-1910, prime minister of Italy 1887-91, 1893-96.

**Cris-pin** (kris'pin), *n.* 1. **Saint**, with his brother (**Saint Crispinian**) martyred A.D. c.285, Roman Christian missionaries in Gaul; patron saints of shoemakers. 2. (l.c.) a shoemaker.

**Cris-pin-i-an** (kri spin'ē ən), *n.* **Saint**. See under **Crispin, Saint**.

**crisp-y** (kris'pē), *adj.*, **crisp-i-er, crisp-i-est**. 1. (esp. of food) brittle; crisp. 2. curly or wavy. 3. brisk. [1350-1400; ME *crispi*. See *CRISP*, *-y*] — **crisp/i-ly, adv.** — **crisp/i-ness, n.**

**cris-sal** (kris'əl), *adj.* of or pertaining to the crissum. [1870-75; *< NL* *crissalis*. See **CRISSUM**, *-AL*]

**criss-cross** (kris'kros), *v.*, *n.* — *v.* 1. to cross back and forth over students crisscrossing the field on their way to school. 2. to mark with crossing lines. — *v.* 3. to proceed or pass back and forth; be arranged in a criss-

cross pattern: *The streets in that part of town crisscross confusingly.* — *adj.* 4. Also, **criss/crossed**, having many crossing lines, paths, etc. — *n.* 5. a crisscross mark, pattern, etc. 6. tick-tack-toe. — *adv.* 7. in a crisscross manner; crosswise. 8. awry; askew. [1810-20; var. of **CHRISTCROSS**]

**cris-sum** (kris'əm), *n.*, *pl.* **cris-sa** (kris'ə). **Ornith.** 1. the region surrounding the cloacal opening beneath the tail of a bird. 2. the feathers of this region collectively. [1870-75; *< NL*, equiv. to *L* *criss(are)* to move the haunches + *-um* *n.* suffix]

**cris-ta** (kris'tā), *n.*, *pl.* **-tae** (-tē). **Anat., Zool.** a crest or ridge. [1840-50; *< L*: a **CREST**, tuft, comb]

**cris-tate** (kris'tāt), *adj.* 1. having a crest; crested. 2. forming a crest. Also, **cris/tat-ed**. [1655-65; *< L* *cris-tatus*, equiv. to *cris(ta)* **CRISTA** + *-atus* *-ATE*]

**Cris-to-bal** (kri stō'bəl), *n.* a seaport in Panama at the Atlantic end of the Panama Canal, adjacent to Colón. 11,600. Spanish, **Cris-tó-bal** (krēs tō'bəl).

**cris-to-bal-ite** (kri stō'bə lit'), *n.* **Mineral**. a polymorph of quartz occurring in volcanic rock in the form of colorless, translucent crystals. [1885-90; named after **Saint Cristóbal**, a hill near Pachuca de Soto, Mexico; see *-ITE*]

**Cris-tophe** (kré stō'f), *n.* **Henri**. See **Christophe, Henri**.

**crit** (krit), *n.* **Informal**. 1. a critic. 2. criticism. 3. a critique. [1735-45; by shortening]

**crit.**, 1. critic. 2. critical. 3. criticism. 4. criticized.

**cri-ti-ri-on** (kri tēr'ē ən), *n.*, *pl.* **-teri-a** (-tēr'ē ə), **-ter-i-ons**. a standard of judgment or criticism; a rule or principle for evaluating or testing something. [1605-15; *< Gk* *kritērion* a standard, equiv. to *kri-* var. *s* of *kri-*nein to separate, decide + *-terion* neut. suffix of means (akin to *L* *-torium* *-TORIY*)] — **cri-ti-ri-al, adj.** — *Syn.* measure, touchstone, yardstick. See **standard**.

**Usage**. Like some other nouns borrowed from the Greek, **CRITERION** has both a Greek plural, **CRITERIA**, and a plural formed on the English pattern, **CRITERIONS**. The plural in *-a* occurs with far greater frequency than does the *-s* plural: *These are the criteria for the selection of candidates*. Although **CRITERIA** is sometimes used as a singular, most often in speech and rather infrequently in edited prose, it continues strongly in use as a plural in standard English, with **CRITERION** as the singular.

**crit-ic** (krit'ik), *n.* 1. a person who judges, evaluates, or criticizes: a poor critic of men. 2. a person who judges, evaluates, or analyzes literary or artistic works, dramatic or musical performances, or the like, esp. for a newspaper or magazine. 3. a person who tends too readily to make captious, trivial, or harsh judgments; faultfinder. 4. **Archaic**. a. criticism. b. critique. [1575-85; *< L* *criticus* *< Gk* *kritikos* skilled in judging (adj.), critic (n.), equiv. to *krit(ēs)* judge, umpire (*kri(nein)* to separate, decide + *-tes* agent suffix) + *-ikos* (-ic)] — *Syn.* 2. reviewer, judge. 3. censurer, carper.

**crit-i-cal** (krit'ī kəl), *adj.* 1. inclined to find fault or to judge with severity, often too readily. 2. occupied with or skilled in criticism. 3. involving skillful judgment as to truth, merit, etc.; judicial: a critical analysis. 4. of or pertaining to critics or criticism; critical essays. 5. providing textual variants, proposed emendations, etc.: a critical edition of Chaucer. 6. pertaining to or of the nature of a crisis: a critical shortage of food. 7. of decisive importance with respect to the outcome; crucial: a critical moment. 8. of essential importance; indispensable: a critical ingredient. 9. **Med.** (of a patient's condition) having unstable and abnormal vital signs and other unfavorable indicators, as loss of appetite, poor mobility, or unconsciousness. 10. **Physics**. a. pertaining to a state, value, or quantity at which one or more properties of a substance or system undergo a change. b. (of fissionable material) having enough mass to sustain a chain reaction. [1580-90; *CRITIC* + *-AL*] — **crit-i-cal-ly, adv.** — **crit-i-cal/i-ty, crit-i-cal-ness, n.** — *Syn.* 1. captious, censorious, carping, faultfinding, caviling. 3. discriminating, exact, precise.

**crit-i-cal an-gle**, 1. **Optics**. the minimum angle of incidence beyond which total internal reflection occurs for light traveling from a medium of higher to one of lower index of refraction; the angle of incidence for which refracted rays emerge tangent to the surface separating two media, the light traveling from the medium of higher to the medium of lower index of refraction. 2. Also called **angle of stall**, **crit-i-cal an-gle of attack**, **stalling angle**. **Aeron.** the angle of attack, greater than or equal to the angle of attack for maximum lift, at which there is a sudden change in the airflow around an airfoil with a subsequent decrease in lift and increase in drag. [1870-75]

**crit-i-cal con-stant**, **Physics**. any of three constants associated with the critical point of a pure element or compound. Cf. **critical density**, **critical pressure**, **critical temperature**.

**crit-i-cal den-si-ty**, **Physics**. the density of a pure element or compound at a critical point. Cf. **critical constant**.

**crit-i-cal mass**, 1. **Physics**. the amount of a given fissionable material necessary to sustain a chain reaction at a constant rate. 2. an amount necessary or sufficient to have a significant effect or to achieve a result: a critical mass of popular support. [1940-45]

**crit-i-cal point**, 1. **Physics**. the point at which a substance in one phase, as the liquid, has the same density, pressure, and temperature as in another phase, as the gaseous. 2. **Math.** a. (of a function of a single variable) a point at which the derivative of the function is zero. b. (of a function of several variables) a point at which all partial derivatives of the function are zero. [1875-80]

**crit-i-cal pres-sure**, **Physics**. the pressure of a pure element or compound at a critical point. Cf. **critical constant**.

**crit-i-cal ra-tio**, **Statistics**. a ratio associated with the probability of a sample, usually the ratio of the deviation from the mean to the standard deviation.

**crit-i-cal re-gion**, **Statistics**. the rejection region for the null hypothesis in the testing of a hypothesis. [1950-55]

**crit-i-cal state**, **Physics**. the state of a pure element or compound when it is at a critical point. [1895-1900]

**crit-i-cal tem-pera-ture**, **Physics**. the temperature of a pure element or compound at a critical point. Cf. **critical constant**. [1865-70]

**crit-i-cal val-ue**, **Statistics**. the value of the random variable at the boundary between the acceptance region and the rejection region in the testing of a hypothesis. [1905-10]

**crit-i-cal vol-ume**, **Physics**. the volume occupied by a certain mass, usually one gram molecule of a liquid or gaseous substance at its critical point. [1875-80]

**crit-ic-as-ter** (krit'ī kas'tər), *n.* an incompetent critic. [1875-85; *CRITIC* + *-ASTER*]

**crit-i-cism** (krit'ī siz'əm), *n.* 1. the act of passing judgment as to the merits of anything. 2. the act of passing severe judgment; censure; faultfinding. 3. the act or art of analyzing and evaluating or judging the quality of a literary or artistic work, musical performance, art exhibit, dramatic production, etc. 4. a critical comment, article, or essay; critique. 5. any of various methods of studying texts or documents for the purpose of dating or reconstructing them, evaluating their authenticity, analyzing their content or style, etc.: historical criticism; literary criticism. 6. investigation of the text, origin, etc., of literary documents, esp. Biblical ones: textual criticism. [1600-10; *CRITIC* + *-ISM*] — *Syn.* 2. stricture, animadversion. 4. See **review**.

**crit-i-cize** (krit'ī siz'), *v.* **-cized, -cizing**. — *v.* 1. to censure or find fault with. 2. to judge or discuss the merits and faults of: to criticize three novels in one review. — *v.* 3. to find fault; judge unfavorably or harshly. 4. to make judgments as to merits and faults. Also, *crit.* **Brit.**, **crit/i-cise**. [1640-50; *CRITIC* + *-IZE*] — **crit-i-ciz-a-ble, adj.** — **crit-i-ciz'er, n.** — **crit-i-ciz-ing-ly, adv.** — *Syn.* 1. condemn, blame. 2. appraise, evaluate.

**crit-i-que** (kri tē'k), *n.*, *v.* **-tiqued, -ti-quiring**. — *n.* 1. an article or essay criticizing a literary or other work; detailed evaluation; review. 2. a criticism or critical comment on some problem, subject, etc. 3. the art or practice of criticism. — *v.* 4. to review or analyze critically. [1695-1705; *< F* *< Gk* *kritikē* the art of criticism, *n.* use of fem. of *kritikos* critical, skilled in judging; *r.* *CRITIC*]

**Critique of Pure Reason**, a philosophical work (1781) by Immanuel Kant.

**Crit-tenden Com-promise** (krit'n den), *U.S. Hist.* a series of constitutional amendments proposed in Congress in 1860 to serve as a compromise between proslavery and antislavery factions, one of which would have permitted slavery in the territories south but not north of latitude 36°30'N. Also called **Crit'tenden Plan**, [named after its proponent, John J. Crittenden (1787-1863), U.S. Senator from Kentucky]

**crit-ter** (krit'ər), *n.* **Dial.** 1. a domesticated animal. 2. any creature. Also, **crit/tur**. [var. of **CREATURE**]

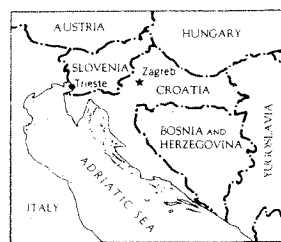
**Cri-us** (kri'əs), *n.* **Class. Myth.** a Titan, the son of Uranus and Gaia.

**croak** (krōk), *v.* 1. to utter a low-pitched, harsh cry, as the sound of a frog or a raven. 2. to speak with a low, rasping voice. 3. **Slang**. to die. 4. to talk despondingly; prophesy trouble or evil; grumble. — *v.* 5. to utter or announce by croaking. 6. **Slang**. to kill. — *n.* 7. the act or sound of croaking. [1550-60; earlier *croake*, prob. imit.; cf. OE *cræcetan* (of a raven) to croak]

**croak-er** (krō'kər), *n.* 1. a person or thing that croaks. 2. any of several sciaenoid fishes that make a croaking noise, esp. *Micropogonias undulatus* (**Atlantic croaker**), found off the Atlantic coast of the southern U.S. 3. a person who grumbles or forebodes evil. 4. **Slang**. doctor. [1630-40; *CROAK* + *-ER*]

**croak-y** (krō'kē), *adj.*, **croak-i-er, croak-i-est**. low-pitched and hoarse; croaking. [1840-50; *CROAK* + *-Y*] — **croak/i-ly, adv.** — **croak/i-ness, n.**

**Cro-at** (krō'at, -āt), *n.* a native or inhabitant of Croatia; Croatian.



**Cro-a-tia** (krō ā'sha, -shē ə), *n.* a republic in SE Europe; includes the historical regions of Dalmatia, Istria, and Slavonia; formerly a part of Yugoslavia. 4,660,000; 21,835 sq. mi. (56,555 sq. km). *Cap.*: Zagreb. Serbo-Croatian, **Hrvatska**.

**Cro-a-tian** (krō ā'shən, -shē ən), *adj.* 1. of or pertaining to Croatia, its people, or their language. — *n.* 2. a Croat. 3. Serbo-Croatian as spoken and written in Croatia; Croatian.

**CONCISE PRONUNCIATION KEY:** act, cāpe, dāre, pārt, set, equal; if, ice, ox, över, order, oil, book, bōot, out, up, ürge, child; sing, shoe; in, shem; i, as in easily, o, as in gallup, u, as in circuit, u, as in sure (f), hour (ou'r). l and n can serve as syllabic consonants, as in cradle (krād'l), and button (but'n). See the full key inside the front cover.



**prêt-à-porter** (pret'ä pör tä', -pör-), *n.* ready-to-wear clothing. [1955-60; < F. trans. of READY-TO-WEAR]

**pre-tar-sus** (prē tär'sas), *n.* pl. -si (-sī). the terminal outgrowth of the tarsus of an arthropod. [*< NL; see PRE-; TARSUS*]

**pre-tax** (prē tak's), *adj.* *adv.* prior to the payment of taxes: *pretax income; bonds earning 12 percent pretax.* [1940-45; PRE- + TAX]

**pre-teen** (prē tēn'), *n.* 1. Also called **pre-teen-ager** (prē tēn'ä-jär), a boy or girl under the age of 13, esp. one between the ages of 9 and 12. 2. **pre-teens**, the years immediately preceding one's thirteenth birthday. —*adj.* 3. designating or characteristic of a preteen or preteens: *two preteen daughters.* [1950-55; PRE- + TEEN<sup>2</sup>]

**pre-tence** (pri tens', prē'tens), *n.* Chiefly Brit. pretense.

**pre-tend** (pri tend'), *v.t.* 1. to cause or attempt to cause (what is not so) to seem so: *to pretend illness; to pretend that nothing is wrong.* 2. to appear falsely, as to deceive; feign: *to pretend to go to sleep.* 3. to make believe: *The children pretended to be cowboys.* 4. to presume; venture: *I can't pretend to say what went wrong.* 5. to allege or profess, esp. insincerely or falsely: *He pretended to have no knowledge of her whereabouts.* —*v.i.* 6. to make believe. 7. to lay claim to (usually fol. by *to*): *She pretended to the throne.* 8. to make pretensions (usually fol. by *to*): *He pretends to great knowledge.* 9. Obs. to aspire, as a suitor or candidate (fol. by *to*). —*adj.* 10. Informal. make-believe; simulated; counterfeit: *pretend diamonds.* [1325-75; ME *pretenden* < L *praetendere* to stretch forth, put forward, pretend. See PRE-, TEND<sup>1</sup>]

—**Syn.** 1. simulate, fake, sham, counterfeit. **PRETEND**, **AFFECT**, **ASSUME**, **FEIGN** imply an attempt to create a false appearance. **TO PRETEND** is to create an imaginary characteristic or to play a part: *to pretend sorrow.* **TO AFFECT** is to make a consciously artificial show of having qualities that one thinks would look well and impress others: *to affect shyness.* **TO ASSUME** is to take on or put on a specific outward appearance, often (but not always) with intent to deceive: *to assume an air of indifference.* **TO FEIGN** implies using ingenuity in pretense, and some degree of imitation of appearance or characteristics: *to feign surprise.*

**pre-tend-ed** (pri tēn'did), *adj.* 1. insincerely or falsely professed: *a pretended interest in art.* 2. feigned, fictitious, or counterfeit: *His pretended wealth was proved to be nonexistent.* 3. alleged or asserted; reputed. [1425-75; late ME; see PRETEND, -ED<sup>2</sup>] —**pre-tend-ed-ly**, *adv.*

**pre-tend-er** (pri tēn'dər), *n.* 1. a person who pretends, esp. for a dishonest purpose. 2. an aspirant or claimant (often fol. by *to*): *a pretender to the throne.* 3. a person who makes unjustified or false claims, statements, etc., as about personal status, abilities, intentions, or the like: *a pretender to literary genius.* [1585-95; PRETEND + -ER<sup>1</sup>]

**pre-tense** (pri tens', prē'tens), *n.* 1. pretending or feigning; make-believe: *My sleepiness was all pretense.* 2. a false show of something: *a pretense of friendship.* 3. a piece of make-believe. 4. the act of pretending or alleging falsely. 5. a false allegation or justification: *He excused himself from the lunch on a pretense of urgent business.* 6. insincere or false profession: *His pious words were mere pretense.* 7. the putting forth of an unwarranted claim. 8. the claim itself. 9. any allegation or claim: *to obtain money under false pretenses.* 10. pretension (usually fol. by *to*): *destitute of any pretense to wit.* 11. pretentiousness. Also, *esp. Brit.* **pretence.** [1375-1425; late ME < AF < ML *praetensa*, *n.* use of fem. of *praetensus*, ptp. (r. L *praetentus*) of *praetendere* TO PRETEND] —**pre-tense-ful**, *adj.* —**pre-tense-less**, *adj.*

—**Syn.** 1. shamming. 2. semblance. 3. mask. veil.

**pre-tension** (pri tēn'shan), *n.* 1. the laying of a claim to something. 2. a claim or title to something. 3. Often, **pretensions**, a claim made, esp. indirectly or by implication, to some quality, merit, or the like: *They laughed at my pretensions to superior judgment.* 4. a

claim to dignity, importance, or merit. 5. pretentiousness. 6. the act of pretending or alleging. 7. an allegation of doubtful veracity. 8. a pretext. [1590-1600; < ML *praetension* (s. of *praetensio*). See PRETENSE, -ION]

**pre-tension** (prē tēn'shan), *v.t.* 1. (in prestressed-concrete construction) to apply tension to (reinforcing strands) before the concrete is poured. Cf. **posttension** (def. 1). 2. to make (a concrete member) with pretensioned reinforcement. [1935-40; PRE- + TENSION]

**pre-tentious** (pri tēn'shəs), *adj.* 1. full of pretense or pretension. 2. characterized by assumption of dignity or importance. 3. making an exaggerated outward show; ostentatious. [1835-45; earlier *pretentious*. See PRETENSE, -IOUS] —**pre-tentious-ly**, *adv.* —**pre-tentious-ness**, *n.*

—**Syn.** 2. pompous. See **bombastic**. 3. showy. See **grandiose**.

**pre-ter-** a prefix, meaning "beyond," "more than," "by," "past," occurring originally in loanwords from Latin (*preterit*), and used in the formation of compound words (*preterlegal*). [*< L praeter-*, prefix use of *praeter* (adv. and prep.); akin to PRE-]

**pre-ter-hu-man** (prē'tər hyū'mən or, often, -yū'm-), *adj.* beyond what is human: *preterhuman experience.* [1805-15; PRETER- + HUMAN]

**pre-ter-ist** (prē'tər ist), *Theol.* —*n.* 1. a person who maintains that the prophecies in the Apocalypse have already been fulfilled. Cf. **futurist** (def. 2), **presentist**. —*adj.* 2. of or pertaining to the preterists. [1960-65; PRETER- + -IST]

**pre-ter-it** (prē'tər it), *n.* Gram. 1. past (def. 12). 2. a preterit tense. 3. a verb form in this tense. —*adj.* 4. Gram. noting a past action or state. 5. Archaic. bygone; past. Also, **pre-ter-ite**. [1300-50; ME < L *praeteritus* past, ptp. of *praeterire* to go by, equiv. to *praeter-* PRETER- + -it-, base of *ire* to go + -ius ptp. suffix; as tense name < L (*tempus*) *praeteritum*] —**pre-ter-it-ness**, *n.*

**pre-ter-ition** (prē'tər ish'ən), *n.* 1. the act of passing by or over; omission; disregard. 2. Law. the passing over by a testator of an heir otherwise entitled to a portion. 3. Calvinistic Theol. the passing over by God of those not elected to salvation or eternal life. 4. Rhet. paralipsis. [1600-10; < LL *praeterition-* (s. of *praeteritio*) a passing by. See PRETERIT, -ION]

**pre-ter-i-tive** (pri tēr'i tiv), *adj.* Gram. (of verbs) limited to past tenses. [1830-40; PRETERIT + -IVE]

**pre-ter-le-gal** (prē'tər lē'gəl), *adj.* being beyond the scope or limits of law. [1640-50; PRETER- + LEGAL]

**pre-term** (prē tūrm'), *adj.* 1. occurring earlier in pregnancy than expected; premature: *preterm labor.* —*n.* 2. a baby born prematurely, esp. one born before the 37th week of pregnancy and weighing less than 5½ lb. (2.5 kg). [1925-30; PRE- + TERM]

**pre-ter-mit** (prē'tər mit'), *v.t.* -mit-ted, -mit-ting. 1. to let pass without notice; disregard. 2. to leave undone; neglect; omit. 3. to suspend or interrupt: *The government temporarily pretermitted its repayments of foreign aid.* [1505-15; < L *praetermittere* to let pass, equiv. to *praeter-* PRETER- + *mittere* to let go, send] —**pre-ter-mis-sion** (prē'tər mish'ən), *n.* —**pre-ter-mit-ter**, *n.*

**pre-ter-nat-u-ral** (prē'tər natch'ər əl, -nach'ərəl), *adj.* 1. out of the ordinary course of nature; exceptional or abnormal: *preternatural powers.* 2. outside of nature; supernatural. [1570-80; < ML *praeternaturalis*, *adj.* based on L phrase *praeter naturam* beyond nature. See PRETER-, NATURAL] —**pre-ter-nat-u-r-al-ism**, *n.* —**pre-ter-nat-u-r-al-ity** (prē'tər natch'ər əl'i tē), *n.* —**pre-ter-nat-u-r-al-ness**, *n.* —**pre-ter-nat-u-r-al-ly**, *adv.* —**Syn.** 1. unusual, extraordinary, unnatural. See **miraculous**. —**Ant.** 1. ordinary, usual.

**pre-test** (n. prē'test'; v. prē'test'), *n.* 1. an advance or preliminary testing or trial, as of a new product. 2. a test given to determine if students are sufficiently prepared to begin a new course of study. 3. a test taken for practice. —*v.t.* 4. to give a pretest to (a student, product, etc.). —*v.i.* 5. to conduct a pretest: *to pretest for consumer acceptance.* [1945-50; PRE- + TEST]

**pre-text** (prē'tekt'), *n.* 1. something that is put forward to conceal a true purpose or object; an ostensible reason; excuse: *The leaders used the insults as a pretext to declare war.* 2. the misleading appearance or behavior assumed with this intention: *His many lavish compliments were a pretext for subtle mockery.* [1505-15; < L *praetextum* pretext, ornament, *n.* use of neut. ptp. of

*praetextare* to pretend, lit., to weave in front, hence, adorn. See PRE-, TEXTURE]

—**Syn.** 2. subterfuge, evasion.

**pre-tex-ta** (prē tek'stə), *n.* pl. -tex-tae (-tek'stə). praetexta.

**pre-tick-et-ed** (prē tik'i tid), *adj.* having or furnished with a ticket beforehand: *preticketed passengers.* [PRE- + TICKET + -ED<sup>2</sup>]

**pre-tor** (prē'tər), *n.* praetor.

**Pre-to-ri-a** (pri tōr'ē ə, -tōr'-), *n.* a city in and the administrative capital of the Republic of South Africa, in the NE part; also the capital of Transvaal. 595,000.

**Pre-to-ri-us** (pri tōr'ē əs, -tōr'-), *n.* An-dries Wil-hel-mus Ja-co-bus (än'drēs vil hel' mōs yā kō'bōs), 1799-1853, and his son Mar-thi-nus Wes-sels (mār tē'nōs ves'əls), 1819-1901, Boer soldiers and statesmen in South Africa.

**pre-tor-ship** (prē'tər ship'), *n.* praetorship.

**pre-treat** (prē'trēt'), *v.t.* to treat in advance or as part of a preliminary treatment: *to pretreat wood before staining it.* [1930-35; PRE- + TREAT] —**pre-treat-ment**, *n.*

**pre-tri-al** (prē tri'al, -tri'l'), *n.* 1. a proceeding held by a judge, arbitrator, etc., before a trial to simplify the issues of law and fact and stipulate certain matters between the parties, in order to expedite justice and curtail costs at the trial. —*adj.* 2. of or pertaining to such a proceeding. 3. done, occurring, etc., prior to a trial: *pretrial publicity.* [1935-40; PRE- + TRIAL]

**pre-ti-fy** (pri'ti fī'), *v.t.* -fied, -fy-ing. 1. to make pretty, esp. in a small, petty way: *to prettify a natural beauty.* 2. to minimize or gloss over (something unpleasant): *to prettify his rude behavior.* [1840-50; PRETT(Y) + -IFY] —**pre-ti-fi-ca-tion**, *n.* —**pre-ti-fi-er**, *n.*

**pre-ty** (pri'ti), *adj.* -ti-er, -ti-est, *n.* pl. -ties, *adv.* -ty, -ty-ing. —*adj.* 1. pleasing or attractive to the eye, as by delicacy or gracefulness: *a pretty face.* 2. (of things, places, etc.) pleasing to the eye, esp. without grandeur. 3. pleasing to the ear: *a pretty tune.* 4. pleasing to the mind or aesthetic taste: *He writes pretty little stories.* 5. (often used ironically) fine, grand: *This is a pretty mess!* 6. Informal. considerable; fairly great: *This accident will cost him a pretty sum.* 7. Archaic or Scot. brave; hardy. —*n.* 8. Usually, **pretties**, pretty ornaments, clothes, etc. 9. a pretty person: *Sit down, my pretty.* —*adv.* 10. fairly or moderately: *Her work was pretty good.* 11. quite; very: *The wind blew pretty hard.* 12. Informal. prettily. 13. sitting pretty. Informal. a. in an advantageous position. b. well-to-do; successful. —*v.t.* 14. to make pretty; improve the appearance of (sometimes fol. by *up*): *to pretty oneself for a party; to pretty up a room.* [bef. 1000; ME *prati(e)*, *pratte*, *prettie*, cunning, gallant, fine, handsome, pretty; OE *prettig*, *pretti* cunning, deriv. of *prætt* a trick, wile (c. D *part*, *pret* trick, prank, ON *prett* trick, *prettug* trick).] —**pre-ty-ly**, *adv.* —**pre-ty-ness**, *n.* —**pre-ty-ish**, *adj.*

—**Syn.** 1. See **beautiful**. 2-4. pleasant. 10. somewhat. —**Ant.** 1. ugly.

—**Usage.** The qualifying adverb PRETTY, meaning "fairly or moderately" has been in general use since the late 16th century. Although most common in informal speech and writing, it is far from restricted to them, and often is less stilted than alternatives such as *relatively*, *moderately*, and *quite*.

**pre-ty-p-i-fy** (prē tip'ə fī'), *v.t.* -fied, -fy-ing. to fore-shadow or prefigure the type of: *The father's personality pretypified his son's.* [1650-60; PRE- + TYPIFY]

**pre-tzel** (pret'səl), *n.* 1. a crisp, dry biscuit, usually in the form of a knot or stick, salted on the outside. 2. a larger version of this, made of soft, chewy bread dough. [1815-25, Amer.; < G *Pretzel*, var. of *Bretzel*; OHG *brēzila* < ML *bracellus* BRACELET]

**Preus-sen** (proi'sən), *n.* German name of Prussia.

**prev-** 1. previous. 2. previously.

**prevail** (pri vāl'), *v.i.* 1. to be widespread or current; exist everywhere or generally: *Silence prevailed along the funeral route.* 2. to appear or occur as the more important or frequent feature or element; predominate: *Green tints prevail in the upholstery.* 3. to be or prove superior in strength, power, or influence (usually fol. by *over*): *They prevailed over their enemies in the battle.* 4. to succeed; become dominant; win out: *to wish that the right side might prevail.* 5. to use persuasion or inducement successfully: *He prevailed upon us to accompany*

CONCISE ETYMOLOGY KEY: <, descended or borrowed from; >, whence; b, blend of; blended; c, cognate with; cf., compare; deriv., derivative; equiv., equivalent; imit., imitative; obl., oblique; r, replacing; s, stem; sp., spelling, spelled; resp., respelling, respelled; trans., translation; ? , origin unknown; \* , unattested; † , probably earlier than. See the full key inside the front cover.

**pre-ster/i-lize**, *v.t.* -lized, -lizing.  
**pre-stim-u-late**, *v.t.* -lat-ed, -lat-ing.  
**pre-stim-u-lat-ion**, *n.*  
**pre-stim-u-lus**, *n.* pl. -li.  
**pre-stock**, *n.* v.t.  
**pre-stor-age**, *n.*  
**pre-straight-en**, *v.t.*  
**pre-strain**, *n.* v.t.  
**pre-strength-en**, *v.t.*  
**pre-stretch**, *v.t.* n.  
**pre-strike**, *adj.* v. -struck, -struck or -stricken, -strik-ing.  
**pre-struc-ture**, *v.t.* -tured, -tur-ing.  
**pre-strug-gle**, *n.* v.t. -gled, -gling.  
**pre-stub-born**, *adj.*  
**pre-stu-di-ous**, *adj.* -ly, *adv.* -ness, *n.*  
**pre-stud-y**, *v.t.* -stud-ied, -stud-y-ing, *n.* pl. -stud-ies.  
**pre-sub-due**, *v.t.* -dued, -du-ing.  
**pre-sub-ject**, *v.t.*

**pre-sub-mis-sion**, *n.*  
**pre-sub-mit**, *v.t.* -mit-ted, -mit-ting.  
**pre-sub-or-di-nate**, *v.t.* -nat-ed, -nat-ing.  
**pre-sub-or-di-na-tion**, *n.*  
**pre-sub-scribe**, *v.* -scribed, -scrib-ing.  
**pre-sub-scrib-er**, *n.*  
**pre-sub-scrip-tion**, *n.*  
**pre-sub-sist**, *v.t.*  
**pre-sub-sist-ence**, *n.*  
**pre-sub-sist-ent**, *adj.*  
**pre-sub-stan-tial**, *adj.*  
**pre-sub-sti-tute**, *v.t.* -tut-ed, -tut-ing.  
**pre-sub-sti-tu-tion**, *n.*  
**pre-suc-cess**, *v.*  
**pre-suc-cess-ful**, *adj.* -ly, *adv.*  
**pre-suff-fer**, *v.*  
**pre-suffi-cient-cy**, *n.*  
**pre-suffi-cient**, *adj.* -ly, *adv.*  
**pre-suff-frag-e**, *n.*  
**pre-suff-frag-er**, *n.*  
**pre-sug-ges-tive**, *adj.*  
**pre-sug-ges-tion**, *adj.*  
**pre-suit-a-bil-i-ty**, *n.*

**pre-Su-me-ri-an**, *adj.* n.  
**pre-sum/mit**, *adj.* n.  
**pre-su-per-in-tend-ence**, *n.*  
**pre-su-per-in-tend-ency**, *n.*  
**pre-su-per-vice**, *v.t.* -vised, -vis-ing.  
**pre-su-per-vi-sion**, *n.*  
**pre-su-per-vi-sor**, *n.*  
**pre-sup-ple-men-tal**, *adj.*  
**pre-sup-ple-men-ta-ry**, *adj.*  
**pre-sup-pli-cate**, *v.t.* -cat-ed, -cat-ing.  
**pre-sup-pli-ca-tion**, *n.*  
**pre-sup-ply**, *n.* pl. -plies, *v.t.* -plied, -ply-ing.  
**pre-sup-port**, *n.* v.t.  
**pre-sup-press**, *v.t.*  
**pre-sup-prem-a-cy**, *n.*  
**pre-sur-gery**, *adj.*  
**pre-sur-gi-cal**, *adj.*  
**pre-sur-ren-der**, *n.*  
**pre-sur-round**, *v.t.*  
**pre-sur-vey**, *n.*  
**pre-sur-vey-or**, *n.*  
**pre-sur-cep-ti-bil-i-ty**, *n.* pl. -ties.  
**pre-sur-cep-ti-bil-ity**, *n.* pl. -ties.  
**pre-sur-cep-ti-bil-ity**, *n.* pl. -ties.  
**pre-sur-cep-ti-bil-ity**, *n.* pl. -ties.

**pre-sus-pend**, *v.t.*  
**pre-sus-pen-sion**, *n.*  
**pre-sus-pli-cion**, *n.*  
**pre-sus-pli-cious**, *adj.* -ly, *adv.* -ness, *n.*  
**pre-sus-tain**, *v.t.*  
**pre-sus-tur-al**, *adj.*  
**pre-swal-low**, *v.t.*  
**pre-sweet-en**, *v.t.*  
**pre-sym-pa-thize**, *v.i.* -thized, -thiz-ing.  
**pre-sym-pa-thy**, *n.*  
**pre-sym-phon/ic**, *adj.*  
**pre-sym-pho-ny**, *n.* pl. -nies.  
**pre-sym-phys-i-al**, *adj.*  
**pre-symp-tom**, *n.*  
**pre-symp-to-mat/ic**, *adj.*  
**pre-syn-sa-cral**, *adj.*  
**pre-Syr/i-ac**, *adj.* n.  
**pre-Syr/i-an**, *adj.* n.  
**pre-sys-tem-at/ic**, *adj.*  
**pre-sys-tem-at/i-cal-ly**, *adv.*  
**pre-sys-to-le**, *n.*  
**pre-sys-to-le**, *n.*  
**pre-tab-u-late**, *v.t.* -lat-ed, -lat-ing.  
**pre-tab-u-lat-ion**, *n.*  
**pre-tan-gi-ble**, *adj.* -bly, *adv.*

**pre-tape**, *v.t.* -taped, -tap-ing.  
**pre-tar/iff**, *n.* *adj.*  
**pre-taste**, *n.* v.t. -tast-ed, -tast-ing.  
**pre-tast-er**, *n.*  
**pre-teach**, *v.* -taught, -teach-ing.  
**pre-tech-ni-cal**, *adj.* -ly, *adv.*  
**pre-tech-no-log/i-cal**, *adj.* -ly, *adv.*  
**pre-tel-e-graph**, *adj.*  
**pre-tel-e-graph/ic**, *adj.*  
**pre-tel-e-phon/ic**, *adj.*  
**pre-tel-e-phon/ic**, *adj.*  
**pre-tel-e-vi-sion**, *adj.*  
**pre-tell**, *v.* -told, -tell-ing.  
**pre-tem-per-ate**, *adj.* -ly, *adv.*  
**pre-tempt**, *v.t.*  
**pre-temp-ta-tion**, *n.*  
**pre-ten-ta-tive**, *adj.*  
**pre-ter-mi-nal**, *adj.*  
**pre-ter-res-tri-al**, *adj.*  
**pre-ter-ri-to-ri-al**, *adj.*  
**pre-Ter-ti-ary**, *adj.*  
**pre-ti-fy**, *v.t.* -fied, -fy-ing.  
**pre-ti-mo-ny**, *n.* pl. -nies.  
**pre-Thanks-giv-ing**, *adj.*  
**pre-the-a-ter**, *adj.*  
**pre-the-o-log/i-cal**, *adj.*



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**3 verb trans.** Twist, bend; wrinkle; ripple; crimp (the hair). E19.

G. GREENE An expression of glee crinkled the man's face.  
W. BOYD The fishponds . . . were . . . crinkled by a breeze.

**4 verb intrans.** Make sharp rustling or crackling sounds. M19.

**crinkle-crinkle** /ˈkrɪŋk(ə)lkrɪŋk(ə)l/ *noun, adjective, & adverb.* Chiefly *dialect*. U16.  
[ORIGIN Redupl. of CRANKLE *noun*, partly after CRINKLE *noun*. Cf. CRINKUM-CRANKUM.]

► **A noun.** A zigzag; something zigzag. U16.

► **B adjective & adverb.** (Twisting) in and out; zigzag. M19.

† **crinkum** *noun, slang.* Also **grincome**. E17–U19.  
[ORIGIN Unknown.]  
*sing.* & (usu.) *in pl.* Venereal disease; syphilis.

**crinkum-crankum** /krɪŋkəmkrɪŋkəm/ *noun & adjective*. M17.  
[ORIGIN Fanciful redupl. of CRANK *noun*¹, *noun*²: cf. CRANKUM, CRINKLE-CRINKLE.]

► **A noun.** An intricate or convoluted thing; an elaborate device. Also, a crooked course (*lit. & fig.*), deviousness. M17.  
► **B adjective.** Intricate, convoluted, elaborate. U18.

**crinoid** /ˈkraɪnɔɪd/ *noun & adjective*. M19.  
[ORIGIN Greek *krinoidēs* adjective, lily-like, from *krinon* lily: see -OID.]

► **A noun.** Any echinoderm of the class Crinoidea, members of which are characterized by cup-shaped bodies and usu. branched arms, and include sea-lilies, feather stars, and many fossil forms. M19.  
► **B adjective.** Of or pertaining to the Crinoidea. M19.

■ **crinoidal** *adjective* of or pertaining to crinoids M19.

**crinoline** /ˈkrɪn(ə)lɪn/ *noun & adjective*. M19.  
[ORIGIN French, irreg. from Latin *crinis* hair (French *CRIN*) + *linum* thread (French *lin* flax).]

► **A noun.** 1 A stiff fabric made of horsehair and cotton or linen thread, used for linings, hats, etc., and formerly for skirts and to expand a petticoat. M19.

2 *hist.* A stiff petticoat, orig. of this fabric, worn under a skirt to support or distend it; hence, a hooped petticoat. M19.

3 *hist.* A netting fitted round warships as a defence against torpedoes. U19.

► **B attrib.** or as *adjective*. Made of crinoline. M19.

■ **crinoline** *adjective* wearing (a) crinoline M19.

**crinosity** /kraɪˈnɒsɪti/ *noun, rare*. M17.  
[ORIGIN from Latin *crinis* hair: see -OSITY.]  
Hairiness.

**crio-** /ˈkriːə/ *combining form* of Greek *krios* ram: see -O-.

■ **criosphinx** *noun* a sphinx having a ram's head M19.

**criollo** /kriˈɒləʊ/ *noun & adjective*. Also **C-**. Pl. of *noun* -OS. U19.  
[ORIGIN Spanish = native to the locality: see CREOLE.]

1 (Designating or pertaining to) a native of Spanish South or Central America, esp. one of pure Spanish descent. U19.

2 (Designating) a cacao tree of a variety producing thin-shelled beans of high quality. E20.

3 (Designating) any of various South or Central American breeds of domestic animal, esp. a small horse bred from South American and Arab stock, or cattle of Spanish ancestry. M20.

**crip** /krip/ *noun, N. Amer. slang (offensive)*. E20.  
[ORIGIN Abbreviation of CRIPPLE *noun & adjective*.]  
A disabled person.

**cripes** /kraɪps/ *interjection, slang*. E20.  
[ORIGIN Alt. of CRIST.]  
Expr. astonishment.

**cripple** /ˈkrɪp(ə)l/ *noun & adjective*.  
[ORIGIN Old English (Northumbrian) *crypel* = Old Low German *krypid*, & Old English *crypel* = Middle Low German, Middle Dutch *krypel*, from Germanic; cogn. with CREEP *verb*.]

► **A noun** 1 1 A person (permanently) impaired in movement by an injury or defect, esp. one unable to walk normally. Now regarded as *offensive*. OE.

D. MURPHY My mother returned . . . as a complete cripple, unable to walk from the sitting-room to the downstairs lavatory, or to wash or dress herself, or to brush her hair.

2 *transf. & fig.* a A sixpence. Cf. BENDER 4. *arch. slang*. U18.  
b A maimed or lamed animal or bird, esp. a game bird. M19. c A person (permanently) impaired or deficient in some other way, specified or understood. E20. d A vehicle, ship, etc., that is unfit to proceed or for service. E20.

c Times There would still be the emotional and psychological cripples among our children.

3 *sing. & in pl.* A crippling disease of cattle. *dialect & Austral.* U19.

► **II** 4 A low opening in a wall. Chiefly in proper name *Cripplegate*. ME.

5 A swamp or low-lying tract of land overgrown with trees or shrubs. US. U17.

► **B adjective.** Crippled. *obsolete exc. dialect*. ME.

SHAKES. Hen V And chide the cripple tardy-gaited night Who like a foul and ugly witch doth limp So tediously away

■ **crippledom, cripplehood** *nouns* the condition of being a cripple M19.

**cripple** /ˈkrɪp(ə)l/ *verb, ME*.  
[ORIGIN from the *noun*.]

1 *verb trans.* Cause (a person) to become unable to walk or move properly. ME. ► **b transf. & fig.** Disable, impair; have a severe adverse effect on. U17.

G. GREENE A local farmer who had been crippled as a boy, losing his right arm in an accident. b L. OLIPHANT The trade . . . is crippled by the difficulty of transport. A. TOFFLER Lack of an education will cripple a child's chance in the world of tomorrow.

2 *verb intrans.* Hobble; walk lamely. Now chiefly *Scot. ME*.

■ **crippled** *adjective* unable to walk, move, or (transf.) operate properly (now regarded as *offensive* when used of persons) ME.  
■ **crippler** *noun* (a) a person who or thing which cripples; (b) *slang* something astonishingly good: M17. **cripping** *adjective* (a) that cripples; (b) *slang* astonishingly good: U6. **crippingly** *adverb* so as to cripple or disable; to a crippling extent: U9.

† **Cris** *noun & adjective* see CREE.

**cris de cœur** *noun phr. pl.* of *CRİ DE CŒUR*.

**crise** /kriːz/ *noun*. Pl. pronounced same. LME.

[ORIGIN French.]

= CRISIS.

**crise de conscience** /də ˈkɒnsjəns/ a crisis of conscience. **crise de nerfs** /də ˈnɜːf/ [= of nerves] a fit of hysterics.

— NOTE: Formerly fully naturalized.

**crisis** /ˈkraɪsɪs/ *noun*. Pl. **crises** /ˈkraɪsɪz/, (rare) **crisises**. LME.  
[ORIGIN Medical Latin from Greek *krisis* decision, judgement, event, issue, turning point of a disease, from *krimen* decide.]

1 The turning point of a disease. LME.

2 **ASTROLOGY.** A conjunction of the planets determining the issue of a disease or a critical point in the course of events. U16–M17.

3 *gen.* A turning point, a vitally important or decisive stage; a time of trouble, danger, or suspense in politics, commerce, etc., or in personal life. E17.

J. GALSWORTHY When his son-in-law . . . had that financial crisis, due to speculation in Oil Shares, James made himself ill worrying over it. E. ROOSEVELT The threat of war was just over the horizon and now one else had the prestige and the knowledge to carry on through a crisis. M. HOLROYD She coped with crises ranging from burst hot-water bottles to outbreaks of measles. J. CRITCHLEY What the alienists call 'a crisis of identity'.

*mid-life crisis*: see MID-LIFE *adjective*.

†4 A judgement, a decision. E17–E18.

†5 A criterion; a token. E–M17.

— **COMB.** **crisis management** the action or practice of taking managerial action only when a crisis has developed.

**crisp** /krisp/ *noun, ME*.

[ORIGIN App. from the *adjective*: cf. CRAPE *noun & adjective*, CRÊPE *noun & adjective*.]

†1 A light fabric like crêpe; a head covering or veil made of this. ME–E17.

†2 A crisp kind of pastry. Only in LME.

†3 A curl (of hair); esp. a short or close curl. M–U17.

4 The crackling of roast pork. Now *dialect*. U17.

5 A thing overdone by roasting etc. Orig. US. M19.

**burn to a crisp** make inedible or useless by burning.

6 More fully **potato crisp**. A thin fried slice of potato eaten as a snack. *Usu. in pl.* Cf. CHIP *noun* 3. E20.

7 A crisp piece of pastry or chocolate. L20.

**crisp** /krisp/ *adjective, OE*.

[ORIGIN Latin *crispus* curled. Branch II may result from symbolic interpretation of the sound of the word.]

► **I** 1 Of hair: curly; now esp. stiff and closely curling, frizzy. Also, having such hair. OE.

†2 Of fabric: crinkly, like crêpe. Only in ME.

3 *gen.* Having a crinkled or rippled surface. *arch.* LME.

4 **BOTANY.** Having a crinkled or wavy edge. *crispate*. M18.

► **II** 5 Hard or firm but fragile; brittle. M16.

J. M. NEALE When the snow lay round about, Deep and crisp and even. F. KING As crisp as a dead leaf.

**crispbread** a thin crisp biscuit of crushed rye etc.

6 *transf. & fig.* Stiff, not limp; neat, clearly defined; decisive in manner, brisk. E19.

WILKIE COLLINS Such a crisp touch on the piano. T. DREISER A gift . . . for making crisp and cynical remarks. S. J. PERELMAN Her crisp white nurse's uniform. P. V. PRICE The crisp, almost bitterly dry white wine. A. N. WILSON The crisp creases of his trouser knees

7 Of the air, of a day as regards atmosphere, etc.: frosty; bracing. M19.

■ **crisp** *verb trans. & intrans.* make or become (more) crisp M20.  
■ **crispish** *adjective* somewhat crisp M20. **crisply** *adverb* E19.  
■ **crispness** *noun* LME.

**crisp** /krisp/ *verb, ME*.

[ORIGIN from the *adjective*. Cf. Latin *crispare*.]

1 *verb trans.* Crimp, crinkle. ME.

2 *verb intrans.* Curl in short stiff folds or waves. E16.

3 *verb trans.* Make crisp (*CRISP* *adjective* II). E17.

4 *verb intrans.* Become crisp (*CRISP* *adjective* II). E19.

■ **crisper** *noun* a person who or thing which crisps or curls; esp. a container or compartment in a refrigerator for keeping salads etc. crisp and fresh: M19.

**crispate** /ˈkrispeɪt/ *adjective*. M19.

[ORIGIN Latin *crispatus* *pa.* pple of *crispare* curl: see -ATE¹.]

Crisped; spec. in **BOTANY** & **ZOOLOGY**, having a crinkled or wavy edge.

**crispation** /kriˈspeɪʃ(ə)n/ *noun*. Now *rare*. E17.

[ORIGIN from Latin *crispat-* *pa.* ppl stem of *crispare* curl: see -ATION.]

1 (A) curled condition; curliness; (an) undulation. E17.

2 A slight contraction of a muscle etc. or of the skin, as in gooseflesh. E18.

**crispature** /ˈkrispətʃuə/ *noun, rare*. M18.

[ORIGIN formed as *CRISPATION*: see -URE.]

(A) crisp or curled condition.

**Crispin** /ˈkrispɪn/ *noun, arch.* Also **C-**. E18.

[ORIGIN Patron saint of shoemakers.]

(A name given to) a shoemaker.

**crispy** /ˈkrispi/ *adjective*. LME.

[ORIGIN from *CRISP* *adjective* + -Y¹.]

1 Curly, wavy, crinkly. LME.

W. MORRIS His crispy hair of gold.

2 Crisp, brittle; brisk. E17.

B. W. ALDISS They ate chow mein, sweet and sour pork and crispy noodles.

■ **crispiness** *noun* M17.

**criss** /kris/ *adjective, W. Indian*. L20.

[ORIGIN Alt. of *CRISP* *adjective*.]

Smart or fashionable.

**criss-cross** /ˈkriskrɒs/ *noun, adjective, & adverb*. Also

**crisscross**. E17.

[ORIGIN Reduced form of *CHRIST-CROSS*, latterly treated as redupl. of *CROSS* *noun*.]

► **A noun**. 1 = *CHRIST-CROSS*. Now *arch. & dialect*. exc. *hist.* E17.

2 A crossing of lines, currents, etc.; a network of crossing lines. U19.

3 The state of being at cross purposes. E20.

► **B adjective**. In crossing lines; marked by crossings or intersections. M19.

► **C adverb**. Crosswise; at cross purposes. U19.

**criss-cross** /ˈkriskrɒs/ *verb trans. & intrans.* Also **crisscross**. E19.

[ORIGIN from *CRISS-CROSS* *noun, adjective, & adverb*.]

Mark or work with a criss-cross pattern; move crosswise; cross or intersect repeatedly.

B. HINES Hundreds of knife cuts had criss-crossed the surface into tiny geometrical figures. E. CRISPIN Power-lines . . . criss-crossing one another at all angles. S. SONTAG The metaphoric uses of TB and cancer crisscross and overlap

**crissum** /ˈkris(ə)m/ *noun*. U19.

[ORIGIN mod. Latin, from *crissare* move the haunches.]

**ORNITHOLOGY.** The region of the vent of a bird, including the under-tail coverts.

■ **crissal** *adjective* of or pertaining to the crissum; **crissal thrasher**, a brown N. & Central American thrasher, *Toxostoma dorsale*, with rufous under-tail coverts: U19.

**crista** /ˈkristə/ *noun*. Pl. -stae /-stiː/. M19.

[ORIGIN Latin: see *CREST* *noun*.]

Chiefly **ANATOMY** & **ZOOLOGY**. A ridge, a crest.

**cristate** /ˈkristeɪt/ *adjective*. M17.

[ORIGIN Latin *cristatus*, formed as *CRISTA*: see -ATE¹.]

Chiefly **ANATOMY** & **ZOOLOGY**. Crested; having the form of a crest or ridge.

■ Also **cristated** *adjective* (now *rare*) E18.

**crystalite** /ˈkristəlaɪt/ *noun*. U19.

[ORIGIN from Cerro San Cristóbal, a locality in Mexico: see -ITE¹.]

**MINERALOGY.** A variety of silica of which there is a stable high-temperature cubic form and a metastable low-temperature tetragonal form, and which occurs as massive deposits (e.g. in opal) and as small usu. octahedral crystals.

**crit** /kriːt/ *noun, colloq.* Also **crit**. (point). M18.

[ORIGIN Abbreviation.]

†1 A critic. Only in M18.

2 (Literary, textual, etc.) criticism; a critique. E20.

*lit. crit.*: see *lit. adjective*.

3 Critical mass. M20.

**criteria** *noun* pl. of **CRITERION**.

**critierology** /ˈkeɪtɪəriˈɒlədʒi/ *noun*. U19.

[ORIGIN from *CRITERION*: see -OLOGY.]

The study or analysis of criteria; the branch of logic that deals with criteria.

■ **critierio logical** *adjective* pertaining to critieriology; dealing with criteria: M20. **critierio logically** *adverb* M20.

**criterion** /ˈkraɪtɪəriən/ *noun*. Occas. (Latinized) -ium /-iəm/.

Pl. -ia /-iə/. E17.

[ORIGIN Greek *kritērion* means of judging, test, from *kritēs* judge.]

1 A principle, standard, or test by which a thing is judged, assessed, or identified. E17.



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# Shorter Oxford English Dictionary

ON HISTORICAL PRINCIPLES

*Sixth edition*

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**pretext** /'pri:tekst/ *noun*. E16.

[ORIGIN Latin *praetextus* outward display, from *praetext-* pa. ppl stem of *praetextare* weave in front, border, disguise, from *prae* PRE- + *texere* weave. Cf. French *prétexte*.]

A reason put forward to conceal the real purpose or object; an ostensible motive of action; an excuse, a pretence.

W. TREVOR She had written the letter herself as a pretext to gain admittance.

on the pretext of, under the pretext of claiming as one's object or motive.

NOTE: Formerly stressed on 2nd syll.

■ **pretextual** /'pri:tekstʃʊəl/ *adjective* of the nature of a pretext; **pretextual arrest** (US LAW), an arrest for a minor offence, made in order to investigate the arrestee for a more serious offence: M19.

**pretext** /'pri:tekst/ *verb trans*. E17.

[ORIGIN French *prétexter*, from *prétexte* PRETEXT *noun*.]

Use as a pretext; allege as an excuse; pretend.

W. S. MAUGHAM Pretexting an appointment... he left.

**pretone** /'pri:təʊn/ *noun*. I19.

[ORIGIN from PRE- + TONE *noun*.]

PHONOLOGY. The syllable or vowel preceding a stressed syllable.

■ **pre tonic** *adjective & noun* (a) *adjective* occurring immediately before a stressed syllable; (b) *noun* = PRETONE: M19. **pre tonically** *adverb* as regards a pretone: M20.

**pretor** *noun*, **pretorial** *adjective & noun*, **pretorian** *adjective & noun*, etc., vars. of **PRÆTOR** etc.

**pretorial** /as *noun* 'pri:tɔ:riəl/; as *adjective* 'pri:tɔ:riəl/ *noun & adjective*. M20.

[ORIGIN from PRE- + TRIAL *noun*.]

► **A noun**. A preliminary hearing before a trial. US. M20.

► **B adjective**. Of or pertaining to the period before a trial. M20.

**prettify** /'prɪtɪfaɪ/ *verb trans*. M19.

[ORIGIN from PRETTY *adjective* + -FY.]

Make pretty; represent prettily in a painting or in writing; spec. make pretty in an affected or superficial way.

M. AMIS The good champagne, the prettified canapés. Independent Rundown areas of Camden... have been prettified into small parks.

■ **prettifi cation** *noun* E20. **prettifier** *noun* M20.

**prettily** /'prɪtɪli/ *adverb*. LME.

[ORIGIN from PRETTY *adjective* + -LY².]

†1 In a cunning or clever manner; ingeniously, skilfully. LME-E18. ►b To the point; aptly, neatly. I16-I18.

2 In a way that is pleasing to the eye, the ear, or the aesthetic sense; attractively; charmingly. LME. ►b Gently, softly, quietly. Now *dialect*. I15.

E. FEINSTEIN It was a modest apartment, but prettily painted.

†3 = PRETTY *adverb* 1. M16-M19.

**prettiness** /'prɪtɪnis/ *noun*. M16.

[ORIGIN from PRETTY *adjective* + -NESS.]

1 Beauty of a delicate, dainty, or diminutive kind, without stateliness. M16.

ALDOUS HUXLEY The prettiness, the cosy sublimities of the Lake District.

†2 Pleasantness, agreeableness. E-M17.

3 A thing which is pretty; a pretty act, feature, ornament, etc. M17.

4 Affected or trivial beauty of expression or style in literature, art, etc. Also, an instance of this, a prettyism. M17.

G. B. SHAW I was in no humour to be consoled by elaborate prettinesses from harp and English horn.

**pretty** /'prɪti/ *adjective & noun*.

[ORIGIN Old English *prættig* corresp. to Middle Low German *prattich* capricious, overbearing, Middle Dutch [*ghe*] *perlich* brisk, clever, roguish, Dutch [*prettig*] sportive, humorous, from West Germanic base meaning 'trick'; ult. origin unknown.]

► **A adjective**. 1 Orig., cunning, crafty. Later, (of a person) clever, skilful; (of a thing) cleverly made or done; ingenious, artful. *arch*. OE.

2 **a** Of a person: excellent or admirable in appearance, manners, or other qualities; spec. (chiefly Scot.) (of a soldier) brave, gallant, warlike. *arch*. LME. ►b Of a thing: fine, pleasing, nice; agreeable, proper. M16.

**b** A. F. DOUGLAS-HOME A master of English... with as pretty and sharp a wit as any politician. *iron*: W. BLACK Well, young lady... and a pretty mess you have got us into!

3 **a** Of a person, esp. a woman or child: attractive and pleasing in appearance; beautiful in a delicate, dainty, or diminutive way without stateliness. LME. ►b Of a thing: pleasing to the eye, the ear, or the aesthetic sense. LME.

**a** SHAKES. *Wint. T.* My prettiest Perdita. V. BRITAIN A pretty young Scots woman, pink-cheeked... and dewy-eyed.

**b** G. CATLIN A pretty little town. E. BOWEN A black dress with pretty touches of white.

4 Of a quantity or amount: considerable, great. Now *rare* exc. in **pretty packet**, **pretty penny** below. I15.

— PHRASES: **a pretty kettle of fish**: see KETTLE 1. (as) **pretty as a picture** extremely pretty, as **pretty as paint**: see PAINT *noun*. **come to a pretty pass**: see PASS *noun*². **not just a pretty face** colloq. intelligent as well as attractive.

— SPECIAL COLOCATIONS & COMB.: **pretty boy** *slang* a foppish or effeminate man; a male homosexual; *iron*: a thug. **pretty-by-night** US = **marvel of Peru** s.v. MARVEL *noun*¹. **pretty-face** (wallaby) = **whiptail wallaby** s.v. WHIPTAIL *adjective*. **pretty fellow** *arch*, a fine fellow, a top. **pretty packet**, **pretty penny** a considerable sum, a good deal of money. **pretty please**: a wheedling form of request.

► **B noun**. 1 A pretty thing, an ornament. M18.

J. D. MACDONALD 'Here is a pretty I got for you...' She... gasped at the lovely ring.

2 A pretty man, woman, or child; a pretty one. Chiefly (also **my pretty**) as a form of address. I18.

GOLDSMITH If you would but comprehend me, my pretty.

3 = **pretty penny** above. US. M19.

G. STRATTON-PORTER I'd give a pretty to know that secret.

4 The fluted or ornamented part of a glass or tumbler. M19.

5 The fairway of a golf course. E20.

■ **prettilysh** *adjective* somewhat pretty M18. **prettyism** *noun* studied prettiness of style or manner; an instance of this: I18.

**pretty** /'prɪti/ *verb*. E19.

[ORIGIN from the adjective.]

1 **verb refl. & intrans.** Make oneself pretty; make or dress oneself up to look attractive. E19.

M. M. ATWATER Prettifying up for company.

2 **verb trans.** Make (a thing or person) attractive; *iron*. spoil, damage. Freq. foll. by *up*. M20.

Sunday Express They've prettied it up now with hanging baskets and window boxes.

**pretty** /'prɪti/ *adverb*. colloq. M16.

[ORIGIN from the adjective.]

1 To a considerable extent, considerably; fairly, moderately, tolerably. M16.

H. SECOMBE He was pretty strong for his size. E. LEONARD He'll be home pretty soon.

†2 Ingeniously. Only in M17.

3 = PRETTILY 2. I18.

M. EDGEWORTH How pretty behaved he is.

— PHRASES: **pretty much**, **pretty near**, **pretty well** almost, very nearly; approximately. **sitting pretty** colloq. in a comfortable or advantageous position.

**pretty-pretty** /'prɪti prɪti/ *adjective, adverb, & noun*. I19.

[ORIGIN Redupl. of PRETTY *adjective & noun*.]

► **A adjective**. Excessively or affectedly pretty; in which the aim at prettiness is overdone. I19.

I. MURDOCH He sometimes did pretty-pretty representations of flowers or animals, of which he felt... mildly ashamed.

► **B adverb**. In a pretty-pretty manner. I19.

► **C noun**. 1 In pl. Pretty things; ornaments, knick-knacks. I19.

2 **the pretty-pretty**, that which is pretty-pretty. E20.

■ **pretty- prettiness** *noun* E20.

**pretypprint** /'prɪtɪprɪnt/ *verb trans*. I20.

[ORIGIN from PRETTY *adjective & noun* + PRINT *verb*.]

COMPUTING. Print in a way that displays the structure of a program by the use of spacing and indentation.

■ **pretypprinter** *noun* a printer or program for producing pretypprinted text I20.

**pretzel** /'prets(ə)l/ *noun*. Also (now *rare* or *obsolete*) **bretzel** /'brets(ə)l/. M19.

[ORIGIN German.]

A hard salted biscuit usu. in the form of a knot, eaten *iron*. in Germany.

**preux** /'prɔ:/ *adjective*. I18.

[ORIGIN French: see PROUD.]

Brave, valiant. Chiefly in **preux chevalier**, gallant knight.

**prevail** /'pri:veɪl/ *verb*. LME.

[ORIGIN Latin *prævalere* have greater power, from *præ* PRE- + *valere* (see VAL *verb*)², with assim. to AVAIL *verb*.]

†1 **verb intrans.** Become very strong; gain vigour or force, increase in strength. *rare*. LME-M18.

2 **verb intrans.** Be superior in strength or influence; have or gain the advantage; be victorious. (Foll. by *against*, *over*.) LME.

W. SALMON It... prevails against all cold Diseases of the Head, Brain, Nerves and Womb. A. G. GARDINER In the end the moral law prevails over the law of the jungle. D. LESSING On you go, jolly and optimistic that right will prevail.

3 **verb intrans.** Be effectual or efficacious; succeed. LME.

►†b **verb trans.** = **prevail on** below. I15-M19.

†4 **verb trans. & intrans.** Be of advantage or use (to); = AVAIL *verb* 1. LME-E17. ►b **verb intrans. & refl.** Make use of; obtain the benefit of; = AVAIL *verb* 2. Only in I7.

5 **verb intrans.** **a** Be or become the more widespread or more usual; predominate. E17. ►b Be in general use or practice; be prevalent or current; exist. I18.

**a** *International Affairs* The tensions and conflict that have long prevailed in the Gulf. **b** P. G. WODEHOUSE In the drawing-room a tense silence prevailed. A. FRASER Those who had decided to sit out the times until better ones prevailed.

— WITH PREPOSITIONS IN SPECIALIZED SENSES: **prevail on**, **prevail upon** succeed in persuading, inducing, or influencing.

■ **prevailer** *noun* (now *rare*) a person who prevails E17. **prevailment** *noun* (*rare*) the action or fact of prevailing I16-M17.

**prevailing** /'pri:veɪlɪŋ/ *ppl adjective*. I16.

[ORIGIN from PREVAIL + -ING².]

That prevails; spec. (a) superior, victorious, effective; (b) predominant in extent or amount; generally current or accepted.

*Japan Times* At prevailing prices the mines are incurring substantial losses.

**prevailing wind** the wind that most frequently occurs at a place (as regards direction).

■ **prevailingly** *adverb* I18. **prevailingness** *noun* (*rare*) I19.

**prevalence** /'prev(ə)l(ə)ns/ *noun*. I16.

[ORIGIN French *prévalence* from late Latin *prævalentia* superior force, predominance, from Latin *prævalere*: see PREVAIL *verb*, -ENCE.]

1 The fact or action of prevailing; mastery. Now *rare*. I16.

T. CHALMERS The final prevalence of the good over the evil.

2 Effective force or power; influence; efficacy. Now *rare*. M17.

3 The condition of being prevalent; general occurrence or existence; common practice; **MEDICINE** the number or proportion of cases at any one time. E18.

M. SCHORER The prevalence of American slang in British speech. *Lancet* Populations with a high prevalence of the virus.

■ Also **prevalency** *noun* (now *rare*) E17.

**prevalent** /'prev(ə)l(ə)nt/ *adjective*. I16.

[ORIGIN Latin *prævalens* - pres. ppl stem of *prævalere*: see PREVAIL *verb*, -ENT.]

1 Having great power or force; effective, powerful; influential (with a person). Now *rare*. I16. ►†b Of a medicine etc.; efficacious. E17-E18.

2 Having the advantage; predominant, victorious. Now *rare*. E17.

3 Generally occurring or existing; in general use; usual. M17.

M. STOTT Diseases currently more prevalent among men.

■ **prevalently** *adverb* M17.

**prevaricate** /'pri:vərɪkeɪt/ *verb*. M16.

[ORIGIN Latin *prævaricari* - pa. ppl stem of *prævaricare* go crookedly, deviate from the right path, transgress, (of an advocate) practise collusion, from *præ* PRE- + *varicare* spread the legs apart, straddle, from *varus* bow-legged: see -ATE¹.]

► **1 verb intrans.** †1 Go aside from the right course, method, etc.; deviate, go astray, transgress. M16-I17.

2 Deviate from straightforwardness; act or speak evasively; quibble, equivocate. M17.

J. H. INGRAHAM It is impossible... for me either to conceal or to prevaricate. M. WESLEY He had rung off before she could prevaricate or protest.

†3 **LAW**. Betray the cause of a client by collusion with an opponent; undertake a matter deceitfully in order to defeat the professed object. M17-E18.

►†II **verb trans.** 4 Deviate from, transgress, (a law etc.). I16-E17.

5 Turn from the straight course, application, or meaning; pervert. M17-E18.

**prevarication** /'pri:vərɪkeɪʃ(ə)n/ *noun*. LME.

[ORIGIN Latin *prævaricatio* (-n-), formed as **PREVARICATE**: see -ATION.]

†1 Divergence from the right course, method, etc.; deviation from truth or rectitude; violation of moral law; departure from a principle or normal state. Also foll. by *from*, *of*. LME-E18.

†2 Deviation from duty; violation of trust; corrupt action. M16-E18. ►b **LAW**. Betrayal of a client's cause by collusion with an opponent. M16-E18.

3 Avoidance of plain dealing or straightforward statement of the truth; evasion, quibbling, equivocation, deception. Also, an instance of this. M17.

R. CHRISTIANSEN Timothy Shelley was not deceived by prevarications. M. FORSTER What he wanted was an end to all this prevarication.

**prevaricator** /'pri:vərɪkeɪtə/ *noun*. LME.

[ORIGIN Latin *prævaricator* a person who violates his duty, (in ecclesiastical Latin) transgressor, formed as **PREVARICATE**: see -OR.]

†1 A person who goes astray or deviates from the right course; a transgressor. LME-M18. ►b A person who betrays a cause or violates a trust; a renegade; a traitor. I15-M17.

2 At Cambridge University, an orator who made a humorous or satirical speech at commencement. Cf. **TERRAE FILIUS** 2. *obsolete* exc. *hist*. E17.

3 A person who acts or speaks evasively; a quibbler, an equivocator. M17.

†4 **LAW**. A person who betrayed a client's cause by collusion with an opponent. M17-I18.

5 A person who diverts something from its proper use; a perverter. Long *rare* or *obsolete*. I17.



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